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Latin America

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CONTADORA MINISTERS TO MEET IN NEW YORK

PA241511 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1510 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] United Nations, 24 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- The four Contadora Group foreign ministers from Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama will meet in New York tomorrow to examine the progress of the Central American peace effort.

Last night, a spokesman for the Group said that in addition to revising regional matters, they will release a communique denying growing rumors that one or more countries composing the Group will abandon the cause. It was pointed out that none of the four Contadora Group countries feels defeated and will not abandon the negotiation efforts.

MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION ISSUES DECLARATION

PY250244 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0930 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] La Paz, 24 Oct (EFE) -- The La Paz Declaration, which was signed today by industrial representatives from eight Latin American countries, states that a fair and balanced growth of the industrialized and the Latin American countries must be the basis for negotiating the foreign debt. The 21st Congress of the Association of Latin American Manufacturers (AILA) ended yesterday after 3 days of discussions with a declaration on the foreign debt, integration, and trade.

Manufacturers from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, and Bolivia have proposed bilateral negotiations on the foreign debt, taking into account the financial standing and the needs of the debtors, as well as the support they receive from their respective governments.

The La Paz Declaration issued by the AILA congress consists of four points. The second point states that the industrialized countries must create new world economic conditions by stimulating trade and by transferring technology to the countries of the region. The third point states that the central banks of the AILA member countries must strive on establishing trade mechanisms that would not require the use of foreign currency.

Finally, the declaration states that in the future, private enterprises and economic freedom must play a fundamental role in reverting the negative trend observed in recent years and, consequently, in defending political freedom, which is the only possible road that will lead our peoples to prosperity.

The manufacturers participating in the congress said that although the Latin American industrial sector is going through one of the most difficult periods in its development, it is willing to discharge its duty of creating jobs and of promoting the well-being of our peoples. The AILA congress describes the foreign debt as a problem entailing shared responsibility by creditors and debtors alike. For that reason, both parties must struggle and sacrifice to find a solution to this problem. Trade must be discussed in terms of the New International Economical Order to seek balanced and harmonious development of both industrialized and developing countries, the declaration states. The declaration adds that high interest rates stem from monetary and fiscal imbalances in the developed countries, but that they are paid by our countries.

The AILA congress also criticizes the stagnation of trade within the region and the threat it represents to the integration process. The IDB proposal to create a support fund for payment of the foreign debt has been welcomed by the manufacturers, but it will have to be studied by the new AILA Chairman Alberto Prado Franco, representative of Brazil, which will host the 22nd AILA Congress.

[illegible]

SARNEY: INTERNATIONAL APPROACH TO DEBT NEGOTIATION

PT1400] Brasilia Domestic service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The government position on the foreign debt issue is completely aligned to the aspirations of the Brazilian people. This statement was made today in Brasilia by President Jose Sarney when he received the support of a group of the Party's militants, politicians, artists, workers, and businessmen for all the standing by the Brazilian foreign debt renegotiations.

[Begin Sarney recording] Brazil today has a respectable international standing. I take the opportunity to speak to the nation on the 41st day since I took office to say that the new democracy, sovereignty and independence. The world is aware now that Brazil is not being treated as second and that our independent and sovereign stance will be exercised in keeping with the interests of the Brazilian people. [end recording]

Sarney stated that the Brazilian stance is already yielding positive results.

[Begin Sarney recording] It has already managed to change the international treatment and approach to the foreign debt issue, which is not merely a problem of a financial nature -- a mere accounting problem -- but a profound political problem affecting the lives of nations, especially in Latin America, which service their commitments in spite of almost unbearable burdens. [end recording]

SARNEY TO BEGIN WEEKLY MESSAGES TO PEOPLE

PT1215] Sao Paulo VEJA in the Field in Portuguese 11 Oct 85 p 11

[Text] President Jose Sarney will meet an appeal to all the people, Brazil to the brazilian and workers, to engage with decidedly in the struggle against inflation in order to help the government in this task. The president will affirm that if all society does not fully support the battle against increasing prices, the government efforts in this field may be outlawed [illegible].

The mandatory daily national network program "The Voice of Brazil" will broadcast Sarney's message on 15 October when he will initiate a new procedure in which Planalto Palace will gain closer contact with the people by means of all the radio stations. After the president's message is broadcast on "The Voice of Brazil" it will be repeated the following day in the morning by Radio Nacional and all the radio stations that belong to the Radiobras Network.

After this first 3 to 5 minute program, President Sarney will regularly address the nation each week, always speaking on subjects of national interest. The choice of subjects will be based on the principal complaints received in letters addressed to the president at Planalto Palace.

Listeners will now be able to receive direct information from government hours on "The Voice of Brazil" network, which will begin, "and now, in direct from Planalto Palace" in the name of Dr Sarney's song, "Voice Voice of Brazil," was Milton Nascimento's "Maria Maria."

Planalto Palace receives an average of 400 letters daily, and the presidential messages will be based on the complaints and explanations expressed in them.

VI, 23 Oct 85

CHILEAN U.S. INSTITUTE, MORGAN BANK BOMBED

PY231307 Paris AFP in Spanish 1447 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Concepcion, 23 Oct (AFP) -- Two bombs reportedly have today severely damaged the Chilean-U.S. Cultural Institute and a branch of the Morgan Bank in Concepcion. A student passing by was slightly injured in one of the explosions. No organization has claimed credit for the bombings which took place around midnight on Wednesday. Similar attacks were carried out yesterday against a bank, a library, and right wing radio broadcasters' and Time del Mar, on the Chilean coast, but very little damage was caused.

On Wednesday, armed groups of the clandestine Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front destroyed five public transport buses and painted slogans on their sides calling for a general antigovernment strike on 6 and 7 November.

FPMR Takes Credit

PY241039 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1237 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Santiago, 24 Oct (EFE) -- The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) today claimed responsibility for some of the bomb attacks that took place in several cities in the country. An anonymous caller, who claimed to be an FPMR member, said today the attacks were intended, on the one hand, to create opposition to Pinochet's government and to the South African racist government and, on the other, to show support for the actions of the Nicaraguan Government.

It has been officially reported that two terrorist bombs exploded last night in the city of Concepcion, 500 km south of Santiago. One bomb went off outside the Chilean-U.S. Cultural Institute and the other went off at the Morgan Bank. The blasts caused damage but no injuries.

MIR MEMBERS ARRAIGNED IN ATTEMPTED PRISON BREAK

PY250127 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2130 GMT 24 Oct

[Text] Three members of the outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) party, two of whom is Argentine, were put at the disposal of the Santiago military court for actively aiding in the escape attempt of the seven terrorists, members of Major General Carlos Urrutia and Lieutenant Colonel Roger Vergara, from Santiago Prison during a visit to it recently. This was reported this afternoon by a National Social Communications Division (DINACOS) communique, which added that other MIR members involved in the unsuccessful escape attempt are currently at large but are being sought by all the police and security services because they are very dangerous and heavily armed.

The arrested individuals are Delfina del Carmen Brinner Diaz, 28, alias Patti, who was in charge of planning the attacks against the Carabineros; Simon Pedro Chacon Fernandez, 22, alias Coco, who was in charge of studying the surveillance system of the Santiago prison and of stealing vehicles for the mass flight of criminals; and Juan Carlos Fernandez (arrested), 28, alias Johnny, an Argentine, who entered Chile in October 1983 to take charge of the house in which the terrorists would hide. Besides these arrested individuals, the group also included Carlos Arancibia Ortiz and Yanez del Carmen Ubeda Fernandez, who are still at large, according to the communique.

The terrorists organized the escape of their comrades from prison and rented a house at 1739 [Borne] Street of the Barrio section of the San Miguel neighborhood, where the fugitives were to hide for a few days, the Dinacos communique says.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON REAGAN UN SPEECH

[Excerpts] San Jose, 24 Oct (AFP) -- President Ronald Reagan's speech at the United Nations has provoked the most varied reaction ranging from the refusal of Nicaragua to the inevitable acceptance of Honduras and Chile, but all have noted the "lack of sensitivity" over the economic problems of the developing countries.

Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo said that the fact the United States and the USSR are discussing the situation in Central America "seems somewhat encouraging." Because the Contadora Group has insisted on the need for the international community to respect and support the agreements reached by the Central American states, "universals including the two superpowers."

Reagan specifically mentioned that the Geneva talks are not to replace the current procedures, and "we hope this will be the case," Ramirez Ocampo commented.

The Contadora Group, the Colombian minister recalled, has insisted that the Central American case must not be included within the framework of the East-West dispute. "This the Central Americans are masters of their fate and decisions," he commented.

"We hope the international community, and therefore the United States, will support the negotiations process," Ramirez Ocampo concluded.

FT 25 Oct 85

GOVERNMENT, FRG TO COOPERATE IN ANTIDRUG ACTIONS

Frankfurt Rundschau in German 25 Oct 85 p 5

[Text] FRG Interior Minister Dr Friedrich Zimmermann said yesterday he is satisfied with the information he has received on the measures the Paraguayan Government has adopted to combat drug trafficking.

Zimmermann held a lengthy meeting with President General Alfredo Stroessner at Government House yesterday. The meeting was attended by FRG ambassador to Paraguay Dr Conrad Graeber and by the members of the visitor's entourage: Dr Manfred Schreiber, director general of the interior Ministry police department, Criminal Police Department Director General Eighard Haertell; Hanns-Seidel Foundation manager Dr Otto Graf; and Dr Willi Baumann, the chief of the minister's cabinet. An authorized spokesman said it might be that the meeting lasted a little over half an hour and that the talks centered around bilateral cooperation.

For his part, Dr Zimmermann pointed out that "it was a long talk in which we discussed economic problems and issues relevant to FRG-Paraguayan cooperation. You will understand that I cannot give details of the talks, because that is not standard procedure."

Asked about his impressions of the meetings he held with the Paraguayan authorities in connection with international drug trafficking, Zimmermann said "we have agreed that our two governments will cooperate closely. We are very pleased by the measures the Paraguayan Government has adopted to combat drug trafficking."

He was also asked about the possibility of Stroessner going to the FRG. The Paraguayan president suspended a trip to the FRG scheduled for mid-1985. The FRG interior minister replied that "the president postponed the trip, but the invitation still stands. Although we have not addressed the issue during the meeting, we are awaiting a new proposal on the trip. The president can come to the FRG whenever he wants to."

Another question concerned the "Bengalo case," which some months ago gave rise to many commentaries and irritating press reports, particularly because of the statements made by French-German Beate Klarsfeld, the well-known Nazi hunter. Zimmermann is cited as out that "the federal government does not have to apologize for statements made by a private citizen who is not only an FRG citizen, but also a French citizen. However, through my own words, the FRG Government has declared the statements by some officials and by some of the media."

It has been learned, though, that the issue was discussed during yesterday's meeting. Ambassador Graeber, who acted as interpreter in the dialogue between Zimmermann and reporters at Government House, said: "the president is satisfied with what the minister said about the Bengalo case."

The FRG interior minister will leave for Brazil this afternoon. Before his departure he will host a press conference at the airport. Early today he will fly to the Iguacu Falls area. Yesterday, Zimmermann's agenda included a meeting with foreign minister Dr Carlos A. Saldivar, a wreath-laying ceremony at the National Memorial, a visit with the Goethe school, a lunch with his fellow countrymen at the FRG Embassy, a visit to San Bernardino, and a reception hosted by ambassador Graeber in the evening.

FBIS-LAT-[illegible] 25 Oct 83 p 2

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT SCHEDULED TESTIFY [illegible]

FBIS-LAT-[illegible] Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 24 Oct 83 p 12

[Text] Central Bank President Cesar Romero Pierda has said in the Finance and Budget Committee of the Chamber of Deputies that the country's foreign debt is $1,731,000,000, of which $1,586,000,000 was incurred by the public sector.

Pierda gave a detailed report on the foreign debt and the international economic situation on 19 October. Pierda reported to the congressional committee that the country's foreign debt is $1,731,000,000, of which 91 percent, $1,586,000,000 is owed to the public sector and the remaining 8.3 percent, $147 million, is owed by the private sector. He also said the overall contracted debt is currently about $7 billion and the servicing of the foreign debt (amortization and interest) will be approximately $941 million in 1984. Pierda reported that the country's net reserves in foreign currency are about $430 million.

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS RADIO CAPITAL BROADCASTS

FBIS-LAT-[illegible] Paris AFP in Spanish 1445 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Asuncion, 24 Oct (AFP) -- The Paraguayan Government has suspended the broadcasts of Radio Cardinal, an FM radio station, for refusing to join the official network in broadcasting the results of the municipal elections from the Colorado Party headquarters on Sunday. National Telecommunications Administration (Antelco) officials notified the directors of Radio Cardinal that its broadcasts were being suspended without explaining the reasons or showing them any resolution in writing, the local press reported today.

Opposition leaders commented today that the radio network should be used only by the government and not the Colorado Party and that the suspension of Radio Cardinal goes against the Constitution. Two months ago Antelco suspended Radio Caritas for 24 hours for inciting subversion.

"Technical Reasons" Cited

FBIS-LAT-[illegible] Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Oct 83 p 4A

[Text] Radio Cardinal yesterday announced that it was suspending its broadcasts for an unspecified time. The decision was apparently made in response to a verbal notice received from the appropriate authorities. The directors of the radio station were not available for comment yesterday afternoon. One of the directors, Luis Cartes, has not been going to the radio station lately because of health problems. The employees of the radio station were unable to provide reasons for the unexpected decision.

Certain sources have mentioned the actions of the announcer on duty Sunday, 23 October as the probable cause for the closure. An official investigation is expected to clarify the situation.

[Asuncion Centro Core Sistema Nacional de Television in Spanish at 1141 GMT on 24 October reports, during its usual noon newscast, that upon being notified by phone, Radio Cardinal management stated that the shutdown was prompted by technical reasons. It said that no National Telecommunications Administration order to suspend broadcasting was received, and that the station would return to the air as soon as the necessary technical adjustments were made.]

VI. 25 Oct 85

GARCIA MEETS WITH U.S. ENVOY TO REVIEW RELATIONS

FT241811 Lima Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] President Alan Garcia and U.S. Ambassador David Jordan today held a meeting that lasted more than 1 hour at Government House. Later Foreign Minister Allan Wagner informed journalists about the issues discussed at this important meeting.

U.S. Ambassador David Jordan today went to Government House where he held a meeting with President Alan Garcia Perez. During the meeting that started at 1100, they reportedly discussed bilateral relations and the incident that occurred in Miraflores a few days ago involving four U.S. Marines and four Peruvian girls.

At 1210 Ambassador Jordan left Government House through the main entrance, but declined to make any comments to the waiting journalists.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Did President Alan Garcia summon the U.S. ambassador to Government House?

[Wagner] [words indistinct] met with the president to make a general review of the present state of Peruvian-U.S. relations because a regional meeting of U.S. ambassadors to Latin America will begin on 24 October in Quito, Ecuador. Therefore, it was appropriate for the ambassador to review these issues with the president. This was the objective of the meeting.

[Reporter] Did they discuss the U.S. marines issue?

[Wagner] They reviewed all issues pertaining to bilateral relations.

[Reporter] Will these marines have to face any legal charges in the United States?

[Wagner] The U.S. Embassy in Peru has stated that in keeping with the Geneva conventions, these marines will have to face legal charges and that those who were involved in the case will be severely punished. [end recording]

WAGNER LEAVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO ECUADOR

FT241011 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1617 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Lima, 24 Oct (EFE) -- Foreign Minister Allan Wagner today left for Ecuador to meet his Ecuadoran counterpart, Edgar Teran, who had officially invited him to visit his country. Wagner was accompanied by Alfonso Munoz, minister of the presidency, and by Hugo Otero, presidential adviser and chief of the National Social Communications System.

In a brief statement before his departure, Wagner said he was visiting Ecuador in response to an official invitation extended to him by Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Edgar Teran on 28 July on the occasion of President Alan Garcia's inauguration. Wagner said this is the first time a Peruvian foreign minister has visited Ecuador on an official invitation. This reflects, he said, the constructive spirit with which the Governments of Ecuador and Peru are seeking to strengthen relations between their two countries to promote greater harmony between their peoples.

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The Intl. Wagner said, will contribute to promoting Latin American integration, which is the cornerstone of Peru's foreign policy and which will give Latin America a major role in the world.

Wagner said he will specifically discuss the implementation of a binational project designed to take advantage of the basins of the Putumayo and Yaquas rivers, which will enable the two countries to make 30,000 hectares of land available for agriculture and thus benefit more than 14,000 families.

The two ministers will also discuss President Alan Garcia's proposal to create zones in the region.

ATACCURI COMMANDER VOICES HOPING PACT DISCUSSED

PY1242058 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Oct 92

[By Mario Cueto Cardenas]

[Excerpts] This is a relay from Atacchi for the information center. One hundred and sixty-four peasants, among them men, women, and children, fled from the surroundings of Shining Path commandos operating in the highlands of La Mar Province, where they were held under death threats.

[Clorinda Chiapo] [not further identified] said: We were held because of our ignorance. We were told to follow them and we did so because they threatened to kill us. We acted as a command in some nearby places but sometimes we went to other towns to organize [peasants].

General Juan Antonio Gill Jara, chief of the political-military command in the area of state of emergency, who visited the peasants who surrendered, noted: I am here to extend to you the greetings of the government and to congratulate you for your decision. All Peruvians know of your surrender and we are delighted at the courageous patriotic attitude you have shown.

General Gill Jara noted: This surrender is a hard blow for Shining Path because these are people who have been working for Shining Path. There are members of the Shining Path group although they refuse to admit it out of fear. But we have confirmed their good part in several [Shining Path] operations.

Justice, War Ministers Comment

PY1241338 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Oct 92

[Excerpts] Regarding the surrender of subversives in the Lamas Province of Atacchi Department, War Minister Jorge Flores Torres has stated that this is a great step toward the pacification of our country and a great loss for the Shining Path.

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] hope of peace for this area?

[Torres] Yes, I believe so; I do not think it will be achieved in the short term, but we hope it will be achieved. Nevertheless, this is a good sign because without out of fear of terrorism or because they have been brainwashed, some people in this area have been supporting Shining Path. The surrender of this group must be taken as a great loss for the Shining Path. We hope other communities in the area will follow this example.

[illegible]

[illegible] Interior Minister said yesterday [illegible] was sure that the surrender of terrorists in the Arauco area marks the beginning of the pacification of a violence-ridden area of the country.

[begin recording] [reporter] What is your view on the surrender of alleged subversives in Arauco?

[minister] I am quite happy, as I believe all Peruvians are, about the surrender of a group involved in subversive actions. This means we are achieving the pacification of the country. Most important is the fact that in surrendering, these people are complying with the established laws that are respecting the national constitution [illegible] constitution of the country. [end recording]

[reporter] Arequipa [illegible] Agip (Official Radio)

[illegible] Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1400 GMT 24 Oct 84

[Text, Lima, 24 Oct (TELAM)] — Reports from Chile indicate that the border area between Chile and Peru has been put on red alert because of the discovery of a clandestine arsenal, which Chilean and Peruvian citizens intended to take into Chile. In the [illegible] incident created speculation on an eventual link between the guerrilla movements of the two countries, Shining Path in Peru, and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) in Chile. A detailed report from Santiago indicates that two Chileans, who were wanted subversive agent and accomplice in Lima, southern Peru, to bring them into the northern Chilean city of Arica, have been arrested.

According to the Chilean reports, the people arrested belong, to the MIR, and their Peruvian accomplices belong to Shining Path. They were operating on the instructions of a Chilean coordinator living in Lima.

This situation made Chilean officials decide to enforce the red alert at all points along the Chilean-Peruvian border and to alert Peruvian officials that due to the length of the common border, it was impossible for Chile to completely control the area. Chile also warns that the weapons are Soviet-made but Peruvian military and police officials have not confirmed this.

To the moment, information received in Lima from Lima provided further details on the discovery. According to these reports, the arsenal included 1,000 [illegible] submachine guns, 500 hand[illegible], 100 boxes containing grenades and other supplies.

The media in Lima immediately reported on the findings, transcribing opinions that agree on the importance of the discovery. Moreover, and in this case the version was published by Lima's [illegible], the Chileans arrested were identified as Manuel Munoz Galvan and Antonio Delgado Fernandez. According to the newspaper, this information was provided by what it termed an unofficial source. These Chileans are labeled as members of the Chilean MIR.

During the past few hours, it was stated by political sources in Lima that Peruvian authorities had learned about the arsenal through Chilean citizens who apparently had had a dispute over matters of interest with those arrested, who are considered key members of a powerful international organization destined to supply arms to guerrilla movements all over the world. This information, which was neither confirmed nor denied in official circles, points out the importance of the discovery, and explains by itself the speculation that the investigations by the anti-terrorist directorate (Dircote) have gone beyond the possible link between Peruvian and Chilean guerrillas.

FL 25 Oct 90

RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN, PRC THREAT DISCUSSED

PY2510167 Paris AFP in Spanish 2037 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Montevideo, 25 Oct (AFP) -- Eliseo Lang, press secretary of the Taiwanese Embassy in Uruguay, warned today that the breaking of diplomatic relations between Uruguay and Taiwan would mean for Uruguay the suspension of all trade and investment ties with Taipei.

Lang Hao (Chi-liang) an article published yesterday, 25 October by a pro-government morning newspaper in which reports the request of the ruling Colorado (liberal) Party urges the government to recognize the PRC, at the expense of its ties with Taiwan.

Pasquet stated that the political, military, and economic reality of the PRC can no longer be ignored, and the PRC is now engaged in a policy of opening to the West. The nations that still refuse to recognize the PRC are a sort of rare diplomatic curiosity, and in the case of Uruguay, this fact represents a divergent tune in the harmony of an outstanding international arrangement, he stated. There is no doubt about what option we should choose, Pasquet stated. The reasons given to the other Latin American countries, the United States, and Western Europe are also valid for us.

Discounting religious and not very serious ideological objections, it is only appropriate to suppose that the sole argument against the establishment of relations with the PRC is that it implies the breaking of relations with Taiwan, he stated. Pasquet concluded by saying that it seems obvious that having relations with a country with 1 billion inhabitants is more important than having relations with another country with less than 20 million inhabitants.

The press secretary has admitted that the ideological objections can be children in the establishment of diplomatic relations, but added that when one talks about breaking ties with Taiwan, the principle affirming the right to maintain relations with any other country is not respected.

Since Julio Maria Sanguinetti assumed the presidency in March 1985, several political and commercial delegations have traveled to Beijing. By the end of July 1985, a report on the presumed breaking of relations between Taiwan and Uruguay appeared in the press, although it was later denied by official sources. Sources at the Presidential Information Secretariat have admitted to AFP the incompatibility of ties to Taiwan should Uruguay decide to establish relations with the PRC, which it added is still a remote possibility.

CALLUP POLL SAYS PEOPLE WANT STRONGMAN GOVERNMENT

PY2511841 Paris AFP in Spanish 1424 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Montevideo, 25 Oct (AFP) -- A poll conducted by Callup revealed here today that 56 percent of Uruguayans prefer a government that is strong, resolute, and quick to confront the current economic crisis in the country. According to the survey, this crisis is very serious for 84 percent of the citizens, most of whom stated that their living standards have dropped and will drop even further in the next few months.

The survey reveals that the debt of the different productive sectors is the greatest economic problem in the country, followed by the foreign debt, unemployment, and low salaries.

Sixteen percent of the persons surveyed want the government to make the creation of job opportunities a priority objective, while a similar percentage demanded more efforts in the social assistance sector. However, 11 percent of the citizens demanded faster official action on the crisis, and pointed out the need to reduce trips, to take things more seriously and more responsibly, and to talk less.

OPPOSITION SENATORS APPROVE GENERAL BUDGET

PY311820 Paris AFP in Spanish 1208 GMT 31 Oct 85

[Text] Montevideo, 31 Oct (AFP) -- Through a majority made up of the opposition and excluding only the ruling Colorado Party, the Uruguayan Senate early today approved the general budget for expenses, salaries, and investments for the 1986-1989 period.

In what seems like a paradox, the Blanco Party, of the center, and the Broad Front, a leftist coalition, voted for the establishment or increase of direct taxes on inheritances the sale of currency, luxurious articles, and income derived from casinos. In keeping with demands by opposition parties, revenues collected from these taxes will be allotted to the education, health, and justice budgets. The government had implemented budget cuts in these sectors alleging that there was a lack of resources, but refusing to assess taxes in order to avoid imposing an additional burden on the people.

Moreover, the approved text notes that during the 4-year period the budget will be in force, salaries of public servants may be adjusted every 3 or 4 months by up to 100 percent of the inflation rate.

BRIEFS

75-80 PERCENT INFLATION -- Montevideo, 28 Oct (EFE) -- The inflation rate in Uruguay will reach 75 to 80 percent this year, Vice Minister of Economy Luis Mosca said today. He also said there would be no abrupt depreciation of the Uruguayan peso, since the exchange rate is not currently behind. Mosca denied press reports saying the IMF had demanded that Uruguay adopt a [word] exchange policy, which economic circles said is an IMF euphemism used when it demands a monetary devaluation. All this inconsequential speculation must stop, said Mosca, assuring that there is no reason to fear a depreciation of the peso in Uruguay. However, Mosca, who is temporarily in charge of the Economic Ministry in the absence of Minister Ricardo Zerbino, observed that inflation will be a bit higher than the 60 percent programmed for this year by the government. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0149 GMT 29 Oct 85 PY]

NEW WEEKLY PUBLISHED -- The first issue of the weekly BRECHA, managed by Hugo Alfaro, appeared on 11 October in Uruguay. [Summary] [Montevideo LA MAÑANA in Spanish 28 Oct 85 p 4 PY]

FINANCE MINISTER SAYS NO DEBT MORATORIUM PLANNED

FL2412930 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1934 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Secretary of Finance and Public Credit Jesus Silva Herzog has said the economic policy of Mexico is drawn up and carried out by Mexicans. He said no one and no international financial organization will be allowed to impose its will on Mexico. He made this statement in a meeting with the leaders of the 24 organizations that make up the Labor Congress. He said that through the renegotiation of the foreign debt, Mexico got a breather in meeting its financial pledges abroad. He added that the foreign debt due dates from 1987 to 1990 were set back to years to 1998. Nevertheless, he acknowledged that the debt problem has not been solved.

He said that in renegotiating its debt, Mexico has obtained the best conditions from the international financial organizations, and other debtor nations have followed Mexico's example. He said that at year's end we will not only not have contracted additional debt but will have been able to reduce the debt to December 1984 by $500 million. He denied that the federal government is actively renegotiating the 1985 debt because such a step would not correspond to the present real situation of Mexico.

Silva Herzog told the labor leaders that the federal government has initiated conversations to change the use of credits already contracted so that they can be used to rebuild schools, hospitals, and housing affected by the earthquakes.

With regard to a moratorium on the payment of the debt, the finance secretary said that if Mexico declared such a moratorium we would immediately be isolated and a serious inflationary reaction would take place that would lead Mexico into a situation similar to that of Argentina and other countries that suffer from hyperinflation.

He said a debt moratorium might appear attractive but the consequences would be negative for collective well-being. We must be realistic and responsible and not allow ourselves to be carried away by measures that will place us in a false position, he added.

EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR ON ACHILLE LAURO TRUTHS

FL2422138 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1850 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Egyptian ambassador to Mexico Al Aziz Gaz Al-Shazit has made remarks here regarding peace efforts in Central America and the Middle East. He said that Mexico in Central America and Egypt in the Middle East are destined to carry the historic responsibility of finding peaceful solutions to conflicts in their respective regions.

He underscored that his country was the first Arab and African nation to openly support the Contadora Group and said that the political stands of the two nations (Egypt and Mexico) are similar in matters such as disarmament, development, North-South and South-South relations, and the consolidation of international organizations. He added that the two countries share similar points of view on the Middle East and Central America, and support the principles in their foreign policies such as the right for free determination and nonintervention in other countries' domestic matters.

The diplomat also spoke about the Achille Lauro issue and said Cairo made negotiations at the request of the countries who had passengers on board, always within the humanitarian framework to save 420 innocent people. After mentioning that U.S. President Ronald Reagan agreed that the Achille Lauro hijackers be extradited and prosecuted by the PLO, he said Egypt condemned the hijacking from the very beginning.

He indicated that the unprecedented way in which the United States intercepted the Egyptian Aircraft that transported the hijackers was a flagrant violation of international norms and principles.

Later, he said: We do not believe that the Israeli attack against an Iraqi nuclear reactor, the bombing of Palestine quarters in Tunisia, Sabra, and Chatila, and the harassment of peaceful citizens in Gaza and the West Bank contribute to creating an atmosphere of confidence or comply with commitments made through accords. In short, he said, the problem in the Middle East could be solved if Israel abstains from attacking Arab countries and if the legitimate rights of the Palestinians are reestablished, including their right to create a state of their own.

OIL INDUSTRY COOPERATION INCREASED WITH SPAIN

FL242114 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2003 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Madrid, 24 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico and Spain have increased their cooperation in the trading of crude oil, petroleum products, and petrochemicals, Spanish Minister of Industry and Energy Joan Majo said here today.

The Spanish minister of industry expressed her pleasure at the degree of cooperation with Mexico. She stressed the contacts between the National Institute of Hydrocarbons and Pemex.

After the visit of President Miguel de la Madrid to Spain, the bases were laid for greater industrial collaboration in both the energy field and that of naval shipbuilding, which is important to Mexico, Joan Majo said.

PRC SOCIAL AFFAIRS VICE MINISTER ON OFFICIAL VISIT

FL212358 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2245 GMT 19 Oct 85

[Summary] Mexico City, 19 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- PRC Vice Minister of Civil Affairs Zhang Ming is visiting Mexico "to exchange information on social security matters, for which he will meet with officials from the Mexican Institute of social security. The PRC official has said that "family planning must be considered as a prime objective and as a means of resolving some of the problems that humanity is suffering because of the population explosion." He said developing nations have somewhat improved their quality of life by implementing this kind of policy.

EL DIA ANALYZES MENGES RESIGNATION FROM NSC

PA2222216 Mexico City El DIA in Spanish 16 Oct 85 pp 1, 17

[By Carlos Ramirez; uppercase passages published in boldface; quotation marks as published]

[Text] With the purpose of preventing a Watergate that will disclose a presidential office's direct involvement in actions to topple the Nicaraguan Government and also to preclude disclosing the presence of a group of PLUMBERS [FONTANEROS] who did the dirty work of U.S. foreign policy, the White House has been laying a thick smokescreen to conceal the National Security Council's [NSC] clandestine activities in Central America. These activities violate both the letter and spirit of the U.S. Congress' expressed prohibitions.

A veritable political scandal revolves around the motives for the 19 July resignation of Constantine Menges, who was in charge of the NSC Latin American Affairs Office. According to an investigation carried out and data gathered by El DIA, the Reagan administration removed Menges from the line of fire and wanted him, for an apparent reason, in an obscure information and diplomacy division in the State Department. Simultaneously, the U.S. government refused to turn over to Congress the documents and information that reveal the NSC's illegal support for the various Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups that fight the Sandinists from Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

But this is neither end of the involvement. In the framework of this supplies operation handled from the NSC office in the basement of the White House, conservative General Paul Gorman was removed as chief of the U.S. Southern Command in Panama in January. Gorman has appeared as an important adviser in statements by CONTRA leaders.

In addition, and according to information collected by this journalist, President Reagan considers the removal of NSC Director Robert McFarlane the result of the role this presidential office played in Central America. If the investigation is carried further, the Congress could even reach the office of John Dimitri Negroponte, former U.S. ambassador to Honduras, now under secretary of state, and an important person in the policy of assistance for the anti-Sandinist rebels.

For the time being, there exists an important clue in the Reagan's DIRTY WAR against Nicaragua. Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, deputy assistant to Menges in the NSC and trusted, friendly associate of McFarlane and the Pentagon people, was the CONTRA contact with the White House, according to leaders of those groups. As happened when Kissinger, as chief of State's NSC, led the operation to topple Chilean President Salvador Allende, now Reagan's NSC plays a similar role against Nicaragua.

According to the analysts consulted, President Reagan did not trust the CIA ability very much. This organization is legally authorized to support rightist movements and even topple governments in order to fight the Sandinists. In addition, as U.S. political sources have pointed out, Reagan wanted McFarlane, one of his closest and most efficient associates, to directly control the entire operation. To top it off, the operation disclosed the White House's double dealing in Central America. On the political side, it has made decisions toward political solutions; on the other, it has approved clandestine actions aimed at ousting the Sandinists regardless of the means used, through recession during 1981, 1982, and 1983, and through direct measures in 1984 and 1985.

Menges is the key man. This is why the Congress has wanted to demand from the White House specific, convincing explanations regarding Menges' removal from the NSC -- where he played the role of a hard, uncompromising, anticommunist man of action -- precisely when North's close and some CONTRA leaders' confessions have identified him as the head of the Reagan administration's DIRTY WAR against Nicaragua. A Watergate-style investigation by the Congress could clarify the responsibility of adviser McFarlane and even intimidate President Reagan himself, who could become involved in the political scandal that points to him as being aware of all of the operations of his NSC.

This is, therefore, a special story on Washington's war diplomacy. There is an awful lot to be done.

According to information collected by El DIA from official and private sources in Mexico and the United States and after consulting experts on these issues, Menges' departure from the NSC, from where he encouraged directives against Mexico and directed some important interventionist activities of Ambassador John Gavin in Mexico's politics, was not the result of either the U.S. strategy's failure in the Mexican July elections or the lack of success of White House and Republican Party ostentations, articulate, economic, and logistics support for the PAN [National Action Party].

Quite the opposite. Some facts occurred that were strategic to the Reagan administration. In March, THE NEW YORK TIMES (Footnote 1) (THE NEW YORK TIMES, 1 March 1986) in LA NACION 6 March 1986) began to follow the NSC's direct participation in aid to the Nicaraguan Contras. As a result of this threat was taken up by other important publications -- THE NEW YORK TIMES, THE WASHINGTON POST, and TIME magazine, among others -- and additional light on this operation began to be shed by (Section 502) NSC's, the most important branch of the White House, clearly illegal actions in its struggle against the Nicaraguan revolution since 1981.

North could infer the U.S. people about those facts that President Reagan so strenuously denies in public: the Republican administration's desire to provoke a Cuba-style destabilization of the Sandinist government for another more moderate one headed by Contra men and former Somozist guards. Iran has also spread of secret money from the White House, similar to that used during Watergate, and a group of "plumbers of secret diplomacy" similar to those who broke into the Watergate Hotel has already been identified with special functions to support subversion in Central America.

The issue is a reflection of the important contradictions within the White House. At the same time it reveals the double intentions of U.S. diplomacy. The fact that the NSC took over activities that are officially defined as "covert actions" (Footnote 2) ("The CIA and the Cult of Espionage" by Victor Marchetti and John Marks, Dorsa Publishing House, 1984) and that are authorized only for the CIA -- over which Congress has mechanisms of supervision -- means a weakening of the presidential confidence in the CIA and the State Department and is evidence of what former agent Victor Marchetti called "the evil of espionage." It also places the NSC, a logistic and information office that directly falls under President Reagan, in situations of illegality since 1985 due to the existence of the Boland Amendment (Footnote 3) (THE NEW YORK TIMES) to support (Bill) that prohibits the NSC from supporting the Nicaraguan counterrevolution. Although the validity of that amendment ended on Thursday, 8 August 1985) in any case the NSC's involvement with the CONTRAS took place during the time when it was prohibited.

What still must be seen now is the degree of participation of the NSC leaders. When the U.S. press and investigators were on the heels of North and were beginning to speculate about the participation of other officials of that presidential office, Reagan's removal was made known. According to reports from the United States, Reagan has been involved in radical measures against the Sandinist regime. Reports that are not officially recognized place Reagan at the head of a team of "plumbers" of the Reagan administration that is reportedly carrying out DIRTY WORK in Central America outside the limitations of diplomacy and Congress' strictness.

At this time, the situation of the White House is delicate because Congress is taking a tougher stand regarding the documents that the Washington government must present on the support to the CONTRAS. Like a snowball, this conflict has begun to draw the attention of important U.S. liberal groups that have been very alert to President Reagan's public commitments and that are reluctant to again accept dirty tricks in the U.S. dirty diplomacy.

Reagan: The Man Who Knows Too Much

Who is Constantine Menges? He is an expert in misinformation and fabrication of evidence, and his presence around President Reagan has been characterized by his errors and not his successes because he has involved the U.S. President in incidents that show his ignorance of some foreign policy facts. According to experts who are following his trail, Menges is responsible for the leaking of documents, mostly false, about the alleged Cuban and Soviet penetration in Central America and for the proposal of political harsh measures against countries that do not submit to U.S. desires.

Menges forms part of the very well-defined conservative group within the Reagan administration which is significant to a government precisely at that ideological level, and in the foreign policy sector. He is very closely linked to the ambassador promoted and supported by Senator Jesse Helms, leader of the most conservative sector of Congress and one of the strongest sponsors of Ambassador [illegible] Gavin. Precisely with Gavin, Menges made a great partner to carry out the operation of intervention in Mexico that began in August 1986 -- precisely the day after the Republican convention that nominated Reagan for a second White House term -- and that culminated in a resounding U.S. defeat in July 1988 when the PAN was unable to increase its number of votes in the legislative elections.

Menges' conduct has placed the United States in uncomfortable situations. He had targeted Mexico because, according to him, it was on the path to communism. Although his area of specialization was Latin America, he also cast doubts on the U.S. intelligence services in areas outside this continent. Menges was the first to speak about the "Bulgarian connection" (Footnote 4) (EL DIA January 1985) in the assassination attempt against Pope John Paul II when there was no evidence in this regard. That line was investigated and 10 days later took that line in front of the Italian judges. However, some U.S. professors (Footnote 5) (PROCESO #39, 19 August 1985) recently discovered that the Bulgarian connection was a misinformation operation staged by the CIA.

El DIA published its first data on Menges in April (Footnote 6) (EL DIA, "Operation Gavin," by Carlos Ramirez, from 26 to 31 March 1985) and disclosed his role in Ambassador Gavin's diplomatic work. It was the first time that this was mentioned in the country.

The NSC is now directed by Robert McFarlane, a specialist in Middle East affairs, author of the "star wars" project, one of the most influential men in the Reagan administration and very close to Mrs Nancy Reagan. Someone well known by Mexico is director of the NSC's Latin American office: Constantine Menges. [illegible] COLONEL OLIVER NORTH WORKED AS AN ASSISTANT. North is the figure that IRAN will STRIKE JOURNAL has just found involved in clandestine activities to destabilize and overthrow the Sandinista government. Menges comes from the Hudson Institute, similar to the Heritage Foundation (with a conservative ideology). He was recruited from there to planning official for the Latin American section of the CIA.

Menges was outstanding (within CIA) because of his harsh and inflexible views. Every year he said that Mexico was on the verge of falling into Soviet communism's hands, which view, as a matter of fact, has had two negative effects: It has continued to influence the NSC's actions insofar as Mexico is concerned and has a decisive influence on CIA reports on Mexico's outlooks, which nurture the networks of U.S. officials and politicians as well as of part of the U.S. press.

Menges did not last long at CIA. Known as a "rabid anticommunist," he did not hesitate to enlist former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig into taking groundless and, more often, invented charges and into taking obviously distorted views of reality as true. Menges was the author of the idea of including in the WHITE PAPER ON NICARAGUA, promoted by General Haig throughout the world to prove Soviet [illegible] meddling in Central America, some photographs of soldiers killing civilians. The State Department report said that they were Sandinist soldiers killing Miskitos. The photographs were genuine, all right, but only half-way. It was discovered that the soldiers were Somocist soldiers killing civilians during Somoza's era.

VI. 25 Oct 85 PANAMA 1

DEL VALLE REPLIES TO CONEP LETTER ON SPADAFORA

PA2510A21 Panama City El Siglo in Spanish 25 Oct 85 p 22

[Letter sent by President Eric Arturo del Valle to Dr Carlos Hoffman, president of the National Council of Private Enterprise, CONEP, dated 24 October]

[Text] Panama, 24 October 1985

Dr Carlos Hoffman, president of the National Council of Private Enterprise

Dear Mr President:

I have carefully read your letter in which you, on behalf of the prestigious association you preside over, discussed the recent events that troubled the citizens. You also offered help to seek solutions to the nation's most pressing problems and to help strengthen the civilian government. I thank you very much for your offer.

Since I took over the nation's presidency, I have made efforts, in keeping with the Constitution and the law, to contribute impartially and as swiftly as possible to the clarification of the bloody incident that greatly concerns CONEP as well as me. To this end, on Tuesday 8 October, I called for a meeting that was attended by the distinguished presidents of the Chamber of Commerce, CAPAC [Panamanian Chamber of Construction], SIP [Trade Union of Panamanian Industrialists], APEDE [Panamanian Association of Business Executives], you on behalf of the CONEP, Monsignor Gregorio Nicosia, honorable legislators, members of the ad hoc commission established by the Legislative Assembly, the president of the Government Commission of that organization, the attorney general, and on my behalf, the minister of commerce and industries. I was assured that Mr Carmelo Spadafora would attend that meeting with his own lawyer, but regrettably, they did not show up.

The meeting focused on the discussion of several actions that, in keeping with procedures established by the law, could make positive contributions to the investigation being carried out by the public prosecutor's office, as well as to restore confidence and calm to Panamanian society. In that meeting, the chief of the public prosecutor's office voiced his willingness to appoint, from the pool of current district attorneys, the one that is trusted the most by the Spadafora family, or to establish a commission consisting of citizens of recognized morality, who would be in charge of ensuring and attesting to the fact that the procedures and efforts that are made are within the bounds of the most absolute impartiality and justice.

Any action taken outside the public prosecutor's office is invalid; this is clearly specified in the Constitution and the Penal Code.

As you aptly noted, we as free men are obliged to procure, with all our energy, the respect for human life, strengthen democratic institutions, restore morality among the citizens, and promote and take effective actions to improve the social and economic welfare of the country. To that end, Mr President, I will always share positive efforts with you.

Attentively,

Eric A. del Valle, President of the Republic

DEL VALLE '180-DEGREE POLITICAL SHIFT' PRAISED

PA2302218 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 22 Oct 85 p 4

[Editorial: "A 180-Degree Political Shift"]

[Text] A down-to-earth speech, which may be interpreted as a 180-degree shift in national politics, was made by His Excellency President Eric Arturo del Valle when he spoke at a Consejo [National Council of Organized Workers] meeting. He stated that he has accepted the challenge of Peruvian President Alan Garcia to hold an international summit of leaders in Panama to discuss the foreign debt problem, following the guiding example of the symbol of Bolivar, which has always meant peace, productive work, and respect for the people, in the fullest sense of the word.

In another part of this important speech, President del Valle focused with great emphasis on the labor code, stating that there will be no amendments for the time being, and that when they are made, if they are indeed made, they will be done with the general consensus of all affected groups, as is the government as one will be an island, but a part of the whole, to summarize the practical and democratic thoughts of the head of state. In this regard, the president stated: "If, after making every effort, we conclude that there are aspects that need revision and certain adjustments need to be made, then we will jointly study all of the possibilities and alternatives."

CRITICA underscores the previous paragraph as it is synonymous with the current Torrijian -- dialogue, sincere and open dialogue, facing national reality, without coercion, and seeking only the highest interests of the fatherland.

In conclusion, we emphasize that speech by President de Valle, because we have returned to the great style of the revolutionary process, which is characterized by healthy nationalism and by a people-government team, which in simple words means closest ranks of workers, progressive businessmen, peasants, students, and armed forces; in sum, the true people, which is what Torrijism consists of.

PALA FACTION ESTABLISHES 'TORRIJIST FRONT'

PA2302114 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 22 Oct 85 p 7

[Communique issued by the Labor Vanguard, "Torrijist Front of the Agrarian Labor Party," PALA, in Panama City on 21 October]

[Text] We hereby state:

That the PALA's Torrijist Front is established, based on the declaration of principles recorded in the Charter of 7 August 1981, which seeks to foster the overall welfare of the Panamanian family and to exalt human dignity and inherent respect for human beings by an objective confrontation of ideas.

That the Labor Party is democratically composed of representatives of labor organizations; professional and intellectual sectors; industrial, commercial, peasant and teacher groups; and Labor Party youths.

That PALA advocates freedom and democracy within its organization, with the participation of the rank and file in support for the authority and political power of the party.

That the Torrijist Front, as the labor vanguard, will be the power that will promote the goals for the development of the Panamanian community, in particular for the most needy sectors, and will become a permanent spokesman for national interests.

That the PRD's Torrijist Front will struggle for the implementation and enforcement of the party's principles and postulates to prevent them from becoming dead characters, and to structure a party with its own, well-defined ideology, without patrons.

That the PRD's Torrijist Front, which has been named the labor vanguard, will foster interparty relations within [illegible] [National Democratic Union], to strengthen it, supporting the presidential efforts and the Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama, the body that guarantees peace and national security.

Done in Panama City on the twenty-first (21st) day of the month of October, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-five (1985).

For the Coordinating Committee:

Candelario Santana T. [Cedula No] 9-161-81
Hector Espinoza 4-71-367
Iran Diaz 4-66-67
Jose Bethancourt
Napoleon Gallardo 8-129-42
Dary Ernesto Rodriguez 6EC-2402
Dr Luis de Leon Arias 2-42-108
Dr Rolando Nunez
Ana Diaz 9-73-30
Professor Luis Alvarado
Cil Rodriguez
Myrian Soriano 1-72-744 [all numbers included or omitted as published]

COSTA RICA

MONGE DISCUSSES BORGE VISIT, NICARAGUAN TIES

PA2412953 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 2030 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Report by Gretel Tinoco from the presidency in San Jose -- live]

[Text] During a news conference to be held this morning, Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge addressed various current events that are important to Costa Rica. Outstanding among these was the decision he must make regarding the dismissal of former President Figueres as roving ambassador, the news generated by reports that Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge is coming to Costa Rica, and relations with Nicaragua and the statement he made in Israel on this which he said was distorted by the newsman who interviewed him. The president ended the news conference with a brief comment on developments in Nicaragua derived from the suppression of individual freedoms and the imposition of a state of siege.

Here is President Monge on the possibility that Commander Borge will visit Costa Rica to attend a seminar of the National University's School of International Relations:

[Begin recording] Regarding the Borge issue, I want the following to be established: He has not been invited by the government. Yesterday, I read a statement issued by the National University stating that it did not specifically invite him either, but that it had extended invitations to the Nicaraguan Embassy. If he decides to come, it will not be to meet with us because our position continues to be that there will be no contacts with Nicaragua and that our diplomatic relations with that country will remain frozen until the Las Crucitas issue is clarified.

Fourth [as heard], we personally believe -- and we have discussed this with our cabinet -- that a visit by Mr Borge would be untimely. An atmosphere of hostility toward Nicaragua's leaders is prevalent here at this time. Although Costa Ricans are by nature disinclined to stage acts of violence against people with whom they disagree ideologically, we would not like excesses to take place against a government official of a country with which we share a border. If he decides to come, we have no constitutional or legal instruments to deny him entry into Costa Rica. This is a law-abiding country, and we do not want to be an arbitrary government in connection with this concrete case. Other Nicaraguan officials have come to Costa Rica in the past and they have had no problem entering the country. Likewise, Costa Rican officials have gone there without problems. [end recording]

The president then commented on the situation Nicaragua is experiencing as a result of the suspension of individual liberties and the imposition of the state of seige. He said that the matter is strictly domestic. Nevertheless, he expressed disagreement with the implementation of measures of that nature in a neighboring country. He said:

[Begin recording] That is a domestic affair on which we have our own opinion as Costa Ricans and upholders of a tradition of respect for individual and collective liberties. Our personal opinion on the matter cannot be the basis for the definition of Costa Rican policy toward Nicaragua because that would imply intervention in Nicaragua's domestic affairs. [end recording]

Regarding strictly domestic issues here in Costa Rica, the president was asked about the status of former President Jose Figueres' position as roving ambassador. He admitted that he had said he would make a decision on the matter upon his return from Israel and Puerto Rico, and that the decision has already been made. However, he is not ready to release the decision because he has only recently arrived back in the country. He said that the decision will be revealed within the next few hours.

CONTADORA GROUP NOT SAID 'DIFFICULT TO MEET'

PA242036 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Costa Rican foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said that it will be difficult to meet the deadline established for the signing of the Contadora peace document. The deadline, which was established during the last meeting of the Contadora Group and Central American foreign ministers in 20 November. However, the Costa Rican foreign minister indicated that at present the area's major problems are being discussed, not generalities, as has been claimed.

Gutierrez said that Central America's problems are currently in a stage comparable to carrying granite [empezando en piedra maciza]. He said:

[Begin recording] Disagreements that will be quite difficult to conciliate cropped up at the last meeting between Nicaragua on one side and Honduras and El Salvador on the other. This led to the decision that there will be no meetings with the Central American countries during the next 2 weeks. Instead, the Contadora countries will meet to decide on proposals to overcome those disagreements.

These can indeed be overcome. However, the fact of the matter is that Contadora is now addressing the big problems. We are no longer discussing generalities, but tapping granite. [end recording]

The minister added that if the Central American countries fail to reach an agreement for peace and cooperation under the Contadora Group's sponsorship, other international bodies will have to be approached, citing the OAS and the United Nations. These would have to make a new proposal in order to achieve peace in Central America since because a war among brothers would be most unfortunate, he said.

EL SALVADOR

INES DUARTE, MATES EXCHANGED FOR PRISONERS

Key Presides Announces Release

PA242302 Paris AFP in Spanish 2443 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Oct (AFP) -- Ines Guadalupe Duarte, the daughter of the Salvadoran president, and her companion Ana Cecilia Villeda were freed this morning at 1000 in Tantasan Municipality, Cuscatlan Department, 42 km east of this capital, Communications Minister Adolfo Key Prendes reported.

Key Prendes made this statement today at the General Staff headquarters where a news conference was called to await the released women, who were in the hands of the guerrillas for 44 days.

Reliable sources said that 22 political prisoners and 34 war-maimed guerrillas, who were exchanged for the 2 women and 33 municipal officials, will leave for Panama today at 1400. Key Prendes said that the entire operation is the result of a major conciliatory action by the International Red Cross Committee, the diplomatic corps, the government, and the church which stationed priests throughout the country to receive the mayors and the war prisoners.

SALVADOR: PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER ARRIVES IN CAPITAL

Duarte Family Reunited

FALs1934 [Editorial report] San Salvador Radio Cadena YSC in Spanish at 1911 GMT on 24 October announces that "Ines Guadalupe Duarte Duran and friend Ana Cecilia Villeda arrived 3 minutes ago at the General Gerardo Barrios Military Academy." The station adds that "President Jose Napoleon Duarte has already received Ines Guadalupe Duarte Duran at the General Gerardo Barrios football field." The arrival aboard a helicopter Air Force helicopter, the announcer says, adding that "President Duarte has not made any statements to the local or international press that are gathered here."

Duarte Holds News Conference

FAL302241 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSC in Spanish 0130 GMT 25 Oct 90

[News conference held by Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte at agricultural bank warehouses at El Nino on 24 October 1990 -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Duarte] I will begin by saying that Ines Guadalupe is fine. At this time, she will not make statements, as I ask you not to ask her to make statements. She is tired and apparently she was made to walk for 3 consecutive days. She is suffering from nervous tension, and I am sure that you will understand that this is normal after being held hostage for more than 40 days. However, she is fine. She is very happy to be with her father and mother, and with her children. She is resting at home at present with her three children. Another question?

[Question indistinct]

[Duarte] I believe that the most difficult part was to arrive at an agreement. At this point, I wish to thank the local and foreign press for their contribution. Without that contribution, it would have been almost impossible to carry out the negotiations. On three occasions, news that was released improperly endangered her life. I certain news agency released reports that were actually false and that endangered the negotiations. However, my thanks to the international news agencies, and thanks to the local and foreign newsmen, thanks to the Salvadoran newsmen, who reported the truth.

I wish to say that I believe you can understand that silence was necessary for us. You were understanding. You understood how important it was to the negotiations for us to withhold information from you. I thank you for this, and so does my daughter.

I also thank you for the fact that today all the newsmen were compliant, with one sole exception. I believe you know who it was. There was just one who did not meet the requirements that had been set for the exchange of the hostages.

Therefore, without your cooperation, it would not have been possible to carry it off.

More on News Conference

FAL302200 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSC in Spanish 2044 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] The most difficult part of the kidnapping of my daughter was to come to an agreement, President Jose Napoleon Duarte said this afternoon when he held an impromptu news conference following the ceremony to lay the cornerstone for the construction of warehouses for the Agricultural Development Bank at Km 20 and 1/2 on the highway to Santa Ana. Commenting on the latest talks to arrive at an exchange with the FMLN, President Duarte said:

FT. 29 Oct 90

[Begin recording] [Duarte] We made all kinds of overtures. Perhaps the last one was the one we made in Panama where, over a period of 3 consecutive days, we were involved in a constant search for a solution, that we finally reached. Of course, it was not used, primarily the first part, whom we did not know who was holding her, whether someone was actually trying to confuse people. However, soon afterward, the newsmen themselves discovered the facts and it was the world's viewpoint who understood that this kidnapping had been carried out by the FMLN.

Then, the second part -- once we knew, once the entire world knew, the presidents of almost the entire Western world -- there was an avalanche of solidarity and that had no choice but to admit that they were holding her, and this made it easier to proceed, because we then knew who we had to deal with to seek a solution. The initial problem had been that we did not know with whom or under what conditions we had to act. I think that this answers your question.

[Indistinct question]

[Duarte] I do not have the slightest idea. I believe that the treatment began from the moment in which they deprived her of freedom, when they took her from the town, when they placed a gun to her head and told her that if she did not cooperate, she would be killed. They kidnapped her and made her walk for hours until the six ambassadors to the time spent in captivity. I believe and I hope that I will gradually learn about how she was treated. However, I believe that the most important thing is what it means to a person, a woman, a mother, to feel that she is about to die -- because that is what that they are on the verge of death -- or to feel that she will be separated from her children, from her family, for a long time. It is a psychological phenomenon, more than a physical one. I think that we can all understand this, and that is why there must be a process of psychological decompression so that she can return to normal.

Thus, this is what I must accomplish, so I think that you will understand why I am not going to expose her to questions or interviews, because it is part of the process of psychological decompression from what she has endured for 42 days. That is all that I can say. Are there any other questions.

[Indistinct question]

[Duarte] I believe that all these things have advantages and disadvantages, positive and negative factors. I believe that there is something that the entire world cannot ignore and that is that the conduct of the government, and the conduct of the president has been humane. We have negotiated, not only for the life of my daughter, but also for the mayors, without haggling about humanitarian factors. For example, at this very moment, 200 disabled persons who were in the hospitals are being gathered together and will now be able to leave. It was a humanitarian concept, and I believe that this was advantageous for the process that the government has carried out.

Well then, the matter of political cost has been mentioned. Actually, there are always negative factors. I think that the news today's editorial in El DIARIO DE HOY. I think that you have seen the propaganda that has been carried out. You have seen the threats made by ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance]. There are [words illegible] of ARENA who do not agree with that concept. This government has based its actions on humanism, and I will continue to consider humanism to be basic.

Therefore, even though the attacks that have taken place may have some negative factors, I believe that in the long run the Salvadoran people will benefit, because there is a different way to face things.

It is not one of hatred or rancor; it is not one of revenge. It is a humane war, a war in which this government is committed to continue in the search for peace.

We know that these persons now being released will pick up a rifle again and continue to possibly do harm to the nation. That is unfortunately something we cannot ignore. Neither can we ignore that the entire conflict is wearing on not the government, but the Salvadoran people. Then, our work should be to help the Salvadoran people come out of this conflict and gain peace, and to seek its humanization through the effort of democratization by all in order to find the political space required so that all sectors, from the extreme right to the extreme left, may abandon violence in favor of peace and participation, in which this government is interested. Then, all things considered, this will be positive for the country.

Of course, we cannot ignore that we are undergoing a process of escalated terrorism; that such a process has its methods and objectives; and that it is spreading throughout the world. If you read the international press, you will see how everyday the entire process is becoming more Beirutized. Of course, the kidnapping of my daughter and of the nuncio is actually a process of Beirutization; rather, of Lebanonization, of the conflict. It is a sad fact, therefore, we must denounce it before the world and ask the world to think it over; that in the measure in which there are nations that offer sanctuary to terrorists, as in the case of Nicaragua, which has provided sanctuary to terrorists, or as in the case of other nations who facilitate sanctuary to terrorists, in that same measure, international terrorism and piracy, the hijacking of planes and ships, murder, and so forth will continue to gain an ever growing dimension if the nations do not decide promptly to find a solution to prevent the development of the terrorist process in the world. I think this is the conclusion I have reached out of this (?incident) [end recording]

Ines Duarte Appeals for Peace

PA241711 Paris AFP in Spanish 2148 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Oct (AFP) -- Ines Guadalupe, daughter of Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte, appealed today for an immediate end to the war in her country.

In her initial statements after her release, Ines Duarte asked the Salvadorans "to make their greatest effort so that the bloody conflict will end as soon as possible."

"Let the violence end, let intolerance end, let the feelings of antagonism, rancor, and hate give way to understanding, love, harmonious coexistence, and respect of the fundamental values," President Duarte's daughter stated.

"I hope that the sacrifice of so many struggling to democratize this country will not be in vain and that success will crown their efforts in short time.

"I urge them to continue this historic and patriotic effort with energy, tirelessly, without restlessness, and with all the determination possible."

In another part of her statement, Ines Guadalupe expressed her "appreciation" to the Salvadoran people, the church, the international community "for accompanying my family with words of encouragement and hope during such difficult moments."

Also, she expressed her gratitude to the Armed Forces for "the understanding and effective cooperation" rendered during her kidnapping.

Furthermore, Ines Guadalupe had words of praise for the Salvadoran political parties, especially for the Christian Democrats "who demonstrated to my father, as president of the Republic and as a Christian Democrat, their firm support during the pain he experienced."

With an emotion-filled voice, the daughter of the Salvadoran president said she was moved "to be back with my parents, above all back together with my three children, whom I have hugged and kissed with tears of immense joy."

FMLN Communique

PA2504Z5 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0044 GMT 25 Oct 85

["Text" of communique of the FMLN to the Salvadoran people and the international community -- read by announcer]

[Text] The FMLN General Command hereby officially announces to the Salvadoran people and the international community:

1. At 1500 on 10 September 1985, our urban Pedro Pablo Castillo Front carried out the operation called "Enough of Terror, Torture and Disappearances in the Prisons of the Duartist Dictatorship." The operation consisted of capturing in San Salvador the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] official and manager of Radio Libertad linked to the psychological war apparatus of the counterinsurgency plan, Ines Guadalupe Duarte Duran, daughter of Napoleon Duarte. The Pedro Pablo Castillo Front of the FMLN carried out its mission impeccably, annihilating the bodyguards of the official, and capturing her without causing her any harm and withdrawing to an area controlled by the FMLN. In spite of the large military deployment by the puppet army, the operation was carried out well in all phases, with no problems.

2. In order to ensure the development of the process of negotiations, the FMLN abstained from giving any information or publicly admitting the authorship of the capture operation of the official.

3. Initially, our fronts demanded the release of 34 political prisoners, of which 9 have disappeared from the prisons of the Napoleon Duarte's regime. Throughout the entire process of liberation, we remained firm and unyielding in our demands to determine what the situation of these nine companeros, who have disappeared actually was: Ismet Lemour Hasbun, Maximino Reyes, Linda Ramos, Saul Villalta, Abdala Antonio Wandal, Carlos Portillo, Oscar Armando Campos, and Mario Alejandro Aguinada. Napoleon Duarte was unable to give us a coherent and satisfactory reply on the situation of these companeros. The development of the negotiations showed local and international public opinion the gross reality of our country where the regime kidnaps and tortures, makes people disappear, engages in selective and massive murders, and carries out indiscriminate bombings of civilian population. In spite of the propaganda efforts of the PDC to appear as victims, they have been uncovered as criminals. These nine companeros have disappeared from the Duartist prisons, and the murder of others such as Commander Jorge Gomez Arias, the torture, and the permanent violations of all the human rights of the prisoners make legitimate and reaffirm the justice of our operations.

There are over 50,000 families in our country, over 50,000 fathers and mothers and brothers who have suffered the sorrow of the disappearances and deaths of their children, brothers, or spouses.

Now Napoleon Duarte knows, in a small measure, that aspect of family sorrow of so many humble families, but can never be compared, as he lives in abundance and comfort. While Napoleon Duarte and his government tortures, makes disappear, and murders patriots, the FMLN fully respected the rights of the captured government official, and the city mayors were treated likewise. Only the regime's Air Force and artillery, at times, represented a threat to the prisoners held by the FMLN.

4. Within the framework of this negotiation, we included defining the situation of the 23 mayors and municipal officials of Napoleon Duarte's government who were prisoners of the FMLN, as they form part of the political organization of the counterinsurgency plan promoted by Ronald Reagan's administration in our country. Continuing with the regime's policy toward these officials, the government tried at the last minute to exclude the release of the mayors from the negotiations in spite of the fact that they had been instrumental in the Duarte project and in spite of the efforts of their relatives. It was due to the mediation of other countries and of the Church that the case of the mayors was included. The government wanted them to continue as prisoners and to obtain the release of the Communications Ministry official only.

5. After several weeks of direct negotiations and in the last phase with the mediation of the church and representatives from other governments, the negotiations process was concluded, obtaining a strategic victory for the FMLN. We obtained the release of 26 political prisoners, 4 of whom were released during the negotiations, and 22 were released today, 24 October 1985. We hereby report that three of these released companeros, who require specialized medical attention due to the tortures inflicted on them while they were in the Duartist prisons, have already been taken abroad to recover. Costa Rican citizen Julio Romero Talavera has returned to his country. The rest, 18 companeros who were delivered in Ilopango, have rejoined the war fronts in areas controlled by us and the revolutionary army's ranks in order to take up arms and continue fighting the dictatorship and imperialism.

The release of our companeros was obtained in exchange for the release of the PDC officials Ines Duarte and her friend. Likewise, and in spite of the tenacious resistance of the government, we obtained a guarantee that 96 disabled war persons from the FMLN would be taken abroad for medical treatment in exchange for the release of the mayors and municipal officials captured by the FMLN.

The Yankee Embassy in El Salvador recommended that the authorization for the wounded FMLN prisoners to leave the country be denied. The refusal of this aspect up to the last moment shows that Napoleon Duarte's government violated international agreements regarding combatants wounded in war, as stipulated in the Geneva Convention, and was also a clear violation of the Arapuato agreement.

This has been the second opportunity, in which, only under pressure, and due to the mediation of democratic governments, of the church, and of the International Red Cross, Napoleon Duarte, the Yankees and the high commanders have been forced to comply with an established mechanism which is respected by the countries and governments that respect human rights and international agreements.

This Duartist policy unveiled to the world the criminal and cruel nature of the Duartist dictatorship, its violations of human rights, its persecution of our hospitals and field clinics, and even its lack of concern over the fate of the mayors and municipal officials whose area of captivity in our territories was searched in order to bomb and exterminate them. (as heard)

4. The total success of the "Enough of Terror, Tortures, and Disappearances in the Prisons of the Duartist Dictatorship," action carried out by our Pedro Pablo Castillo Front, as well as the execution of the U.S. Marines at the Zona Rosa in San Salvador show the scope and effectiveness of the revolutionary actions deep in the enemy's rearguard, and faithfully reflects the capacity, cohesion, and monolithic unity of our FMLN.

The magnitude of the exchange operation carried out today 24 October, with the participation of the International Red Cross and diplomats from several countries, consisting of partial exchange operations in almost all parts of our national territory: Morazan, Chalatenango, San Vicente, Tres Calles, Suchitoto, Guazapa, Santa Ana, San Salvador, and Zacatecoluca, once again and unobjectionable demonstrates the territorial expansion of our forces and the international recognition of our power. This victory justly reflects the FMLN's development and capabilities. In addition, the "Enough of Terror, Tortures, and Disappearances in the Prisons of the Duartist Dictatorship" operation constitutes the severest blow against Napoleon Duarte's dictatorship by the FMLN to demand respect for human rights. We have told them in an eloquent and definitive manner that we are not going to allow the continuation of the policy of kidnappings, tortures, disappearances, indiscriminate bombings, and terror against our people. We have also warned them that we will continue struggling until the whereabouts of the missing patriots is clarified.

This operation is the biggest victory achieved so far in the struggle for the liberation of the best sons of our homeland, who have been held prisoner by the regime, but whom with the highest revolutionary weapons have demonstrated the moral stature of the men who fully committed to their people's cause defeat the tortures of the murderers.

This victorious operation carried out by our Pedro Pablo Castillo Front has proved the weakness of the Christian Democratic government to the national and international public. It has also disclosed the unsurmountable divisions between Napoleon Duarte and the FDC; the rifts between the FDC and the puppet Army; the internal branches within the Army. This victorious operation unveiled the deepest demoralization and weakening of a regime headed by a desperate president who began to evacuate his family from the country because 50,000 soldiers were no longer enough to make him feel safe.

This decaying picture of the puppet government reflects the decay of the Yankee project and of its plans for an illusory military victory over the FMLN. In this sense, we reaffirm our political willingness to hold talks and to seek a negotiated political solution.

The FMLN publicly expresses its gratitude to the governments of Mexico, Panama, Colombia, Switzerland, Cuba, the FRG, France, Sweden, Costa Rica, Spain, and Peru. We thank Priest and Doctor Ignacio Ellacuria, rector of the Central American University; Archbishop of San Salvador Msgr Rivera y Damas; Willy Brandt and Hans Wischnewski of the Socialist International. We also thank the International Red Cross Committee, which for humanitarian reasons, guaranteed the successful completion of the exchange of prisoners and the evacuation of the wounded so that they can receive proper medical attention.

The FMLN General Command sends revolutionary and combative greetings to the members of the Pedro Pablo Castillo Front to the compañeros political prisoners who were freed today, and who defeated the torture of the enemies of the people while in jail.

We salute the FMLN fighters who participated in the 10 October victorious battle which consisted of the attack and occupation of the Armed Forces Military Training Center. We salute all our fighters in all the roads and throughout the national territory, who ensure compliance with our stipulations. We also send special greetings to the patriots who are still waging the most dignified struggle against the murderers from the dictatorship's jails.

We reaffirm our steadfast determination to fight until we eradicate once and for all from our homeland the ignominious practice of terror, state terrorism, torture, and disappearances.

Long live the victorious operation "Enough of Terror, Torture, and Disappearances in the Prisons of the Duartist Dictatorship." Long live the patriotic struggle of the anti-imperialist fighters!

Death to Duartist dictatorship and Yankee imperialism!

Revolution or death, we will win!

FMLN General Command El Salvador, 24 October 1985

Rebels Released

PA2419191 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1834 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- The captivity of the daughter of the Salvadoran president ended shortly before noon today after she had been held for 44 days by the guerrillas. Ines Guadalupe Duarte, 35 years old, was turned over to representatives of the diplomatic corps, the church, and the International Red Cross Committee in Tenancingo, 30 km north of San Salvador. The release took place before noon (1800 GMT), almost 2 hours after it had been scheduled. Ines Guadalupe Duarte was transferred from Tenancingo to the nearby town of Santa Cruz Michapa where she boarded a helicopter that will bring her to this capital.

All of the movements dealing with the release of Duarte's daughter and her friend, Ana Cecilia Villeda, who was kidnapped with her, are being followed by radio from the military school in this capital where she will arrive to be reunited with her family. Ines Guadalupe Duarte and her friend were exchanged for 22 imprisoned guerrillas. The government has also promised to permit the departure from the country of 96 injured insurgents. The rebels will release 31 municipal officials they had been holding for several months.

In a transmission by clandestine Radio Venceremos, the guerrillas said that the operation was delayed because the Army violated the 24-hour truce and tried to ambush a group of wounded insurgents and their escort in eastern El Salvador.

Official sources confirmed the release of the 22 guerrilla prisoners who were taken to the Salvadoran international airport minutes after 1130 (1730 GMT). Commander Nidia Diaz, the highest ranking guerrilla leader among the released rebels, has chosen to stay in the country along with her comrades-in-arms Cesar Valle and Eduardo Espinoza. An airplane of the Panamanian Air Force left Panama shortly after 1800 GMT for El Salvador, presumably to pick up the released guerrillas and possibly the wounded insurgents.

It is not yet known when and where the municipal officials held by the guerrillas since May will be released.

All of the terms of this deal were agreed upon in a meeting that representatives of the government, the guerrillas, and the church held in Panama City early this week.

71 Rebels Sent To Panama

PA2304041 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0231 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Oct (ACAN-EFE) — Two aircraft took off from San Salvador airport bound for Mexico and Panama, where the 96 maimed rebels released today will be treated. Commander Nidia Diaz and Arlen Marcelino Arias Gomez, of Honduran nationality, are travelling with the 71 rebels going to Panama. These FMLN members will arrive on a Panamanian Air Force flight to Panama while the rest will board a Mexican Army aircraft. Before boarding the aircraft, the released rebels spoke with Gregorio Rosas Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador.

The rebels will be taken from Panama and Mexico to various countries in Europe where they will receive medical attention. Five ambassadors of European countries and representatives of the International Red Cross, as well as members of the Catholic Church, participated in the negotiations for the rebels' release. The operations to transfer the maimed and wounded rebels were prolonged because of the precarious health of some of them.

Released Rebels Resume Actions

PA2412340 Paris AFP in Spanish 2140 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Oct (AFP) — Nineteen of the 22 political prisoners released today in El Salvador in exchange for the daughter of President Napoleon Duarte immediately returned to their guerrilla activities, leaving for a "zone controlled" by the FMLN. Only Commander Nidia Diaz, leader of the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers (PRTC), Honduran Doctor Marcelino Reyes, and Costa Rican pilot Julio Romero travelled abroad, together with 96 wounded in battle who will receive medical attention in different hospitals of Latin America and Europe.

The remaining 19 former prisoners left on a truck in the custody of the International Red Cross and with a caravan of newsmen, for Tenancingo, 42 km east of the capital, where the daughter of President Duarte had been released a few hours earlier. The prisoners were released around noon from the Mariona prison, in the presence of Red Cross, church, and government officials. The pilot Romero Talavera, who was serving 25 years for arms traffic, was turned over to Costa Rican Ambassador Jorge Fernandez.

The release ceremony was attended by Foreign Minister Rodolfo Castillo, the rector of the Central American University, Jesuit Ignacio Ellacuria, and diplomatic representatives from Colombia and Panama.

Despite the presence of 1st Brigade troops, the guerrillas displayed the victory sign with their fists raised and shouted praises to the FMLN and its command.

Meanwhile, in the town of San Fernando, in the northern Department of Chalatenango, some 90 km to the north, the guerrilla organization also released 9 of the 30 mayors and municipal officials exchanged. The released mayors were taken to the capital of the department, where they were greeted by the president of the Legislative Assembly, Guillermo Guevara. In San Miguel, 130 km to the east, some 23 municipal officials were also released and received by the mayor of San Salvador, Antonio Morales Ehrlich.

Freed Prisoners Named

FAU422226 Paris AFP in Spanish 2151 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Oct (AFP) — The following is the list of the 22 political prisoners released today by the Salvadoran Government in exchange for the daughter of President Jose Napoleon Duarte, Ines Guadalupe:

Commander Nidia Diaz (Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers, PRTC), Julio Romero Talavera (Costa Rican pilot), and Marcelino Reyes (Honduran doctor), who left for Panama.

The other 19 prisoners who left for Zacatecoluca, 42 km east of San Salvador, to rejoin the guerrilla struggle are:

Ana Elena Romero Benavides, Cesar Valle, Raul Castro Olivares, Alfredo Torres Lopez, Reynaldo Barraza, Oscar Armando Escobar Umana, Jose Luis Hernandez Sarmiento, Eduardo Antonio Fiallos Espinoza, Carlos Vasquez Silva, Carlos Antonio Vaquerano, Vidal Garcia, Antonio Castro Palomares, Ascension Mauro, Carlos Guardado Cataguena, Rafael Antonio Granadino, Nestali Rivera Guardado, Francisco Napoleon Hernandez, Hector Antonio Acevedo Moran, and Santiago Rueda.

FDR Leader Greets Release

FAU422003 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2152 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Oct (EFE) — Hector Oquell, member of the Political-Diplomatic Commission of the [Revolutionary Democratic Front] FDR-FMLN, told EFE today that the release of Ines Guadalupe Duarte Duran is evidence that negotiations are possible between the parties in conflict in El Salvador. The fact, he says, shows that when there is a desire to negotiate, it can be done.

Oquell said that the release of the daughter of Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte is one case of the thousands of missing persons and prisoners in that Central American country. Likewise, he pointed out that it is urgent now to resume the attempted dialogue and negotiations, because solving the case of Ines Guadalupe Duarte Duran showed that negotiations can lead to an agreement.

Oquell, who participated in the FDR-FMLN meeting with the Salvadoran Government in Ayagualo on 29 November 1984, said that there are, in fact, possibilities for negotiation in his country. Upon learning of the release of the Salvadoran president's daughter, the representative of the political-guerrilla opposition said: "I am glad, because of everything it represents."

Ungo Satisfied With Outcome

FA2502220 Paris AFP in Spanish 0622 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] San Jose, 24 Oct (AFP) — Guillermo Ungo, top leader of the opposition Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), voiced his satisfaction over the resolution of the kidnapping of Ines Guadalupe Duarte, eldest daughter of Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

Ines Guadalupe was released today after being held hostage for 40 days, in exchange for the release of 22 political prisoners and the departure from the country of 90 exiled rebels.

"That demonstrates that an understanding through dialogue and negotiation is possible even in the most difficult situations," Ungo said, stressing the participation of the church and governments of the FRG, France, and Mexico in the negotiations.

However, Ungo explained that the FDR "had no involvement in the negotiations" because "it had no participation in the kidnapping."

The Salvadoran opposition leader, who is participating in a seminar on new forms of cooperation between Europe and Central America here, added that "one cannot ignore that Duarte's daughter is a person who is not involved directly in the war strategy."

"However," he indicated, "counterinsurgency implies a dirty war on the part of the government which leaves thousands of dead and missing, including many relatives, women, and children suspected of belonging to or collaborating with the FDR and the FMLN."

"The FMLN," he said, "does not have that attitude."

The kidnapping and release of Ines Duarte, in Ungo's opinion, may have ambivalent results, positive or negative, but above all "it stresses again the need for dialogue and negotiation."

In El Salvador, Ungo noted, the important thing "is dialogue, which should include, among other things, the treatment of civilians and respect of the relatives of combatants on both sides."

Maintaining caution regarding the recent outcome of the situation, he limited himself to saying that this incident "may serve to reinitiate the dialogue of the hardest positions."

On the repercussions that the kidnapping might have on the Salvadoran Government, Ungo indicated that "Duarte can emerge strengthened or weakened. It all depends on how he faces the future," adding that "it is clear that the right is not going to support him, that his relations with the right have deteriorated."

Meanwhile, Costa Rican pilot Julio Somers Talavera, who was among the 22 prisoners released by the Salvadoran Government, arrived in the country this afternoon.

Somers was serving a 15-year sentence imposed by the military tribunal that accused him in El Salvador of collaborating with the guerrillas of that country.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT PERMIT ELECTION 'MEDDLING'

PA240941 Guatemala City El GRAFICO in Spanish 23 Oct 85 p 2

[Text] The government will not allow foreign meddling during the upcoming elections, Public Relations Secretary Edgar Zelada Carrillo has said in reply to a paid advertisement. The publication asked the government not to permit the intervention of U.S. President Ronald Reagan in the 3 November elections.

Zelada Carrillo said: The government has repeatedly said that it will not allow foreign meddling in its internal affairs, especially in the case of such a highly important event as the election of a new government.

He added: Furthermore, U.S. Ambassador Alberto M. Piedra has assured us to this, and has reiterated it. We believe that the U.S. Government will understand that it should not intervene in an electoral process that is evidently evolving within the proper democratic norms.

He stressed: This, despite the fact that this democratic moment was created by a de facto government. [sentence as published]

Zelada Carrillo added that this event very greatly confirms the efforts of a military government that has made great efforts to guarantee that the democratization process will conclude without the interference or intervention of any foreign government -- as they have no right to do so -- in Guatemala's internal affairs.

ARMY EVICTS GUERRILLAS FROM TOWN IN SOLOLA

PA240554 Guatemala City El GRAFICO in Spanish 23 Oct 85 p 2

[Text] The national Army stated this afternoon that it had evicted the leftist rebels who were in San Lucas Toliman, Solola. The Army also reported that the rebels had murdered a businessman, and extorted money for their protection from 75 families which fled from the guerrillas.

The reports were given by the Information and Public Relations office of the National Army. Concerning the incidents at Solola, the report said military patrols evicted the rebels in the upper regions of San Lucas Toliman and recovered war material and anti-government propaganda.

It was also reported that a member of the Civilian Defense Patrol and a businessman of Santa Barbara, Southtenango had been murdered by leftists who -- according to reports sent the following day -- briefly controlled the town. The murdered man's name was German Macario Lazaro.

Meanwhile, it is also reported that in the "Sabanticos" hamlet in Chimaltenango, Alta Verapaz, a military patrol "engaged in an armed clash" with the guerrillas. The "terrorists" fled and gave up their plans "against the local population." The military report says that the soldiers seized arms, explosives, civilian garments, propaganda, and documents in that place, which are being analyzed by the intelligence department.

The Information and Public Relations office of the Army added that it is protecting 75 families from Xicalamo and Xicalpita, a town in El Quiche that managed to flee from the rebel groups. The group is staying at military base No 20, stationed at Santa Cruz, El Quiche.

HONDURAS

ARMED FORCES COMMANDER'S TERM SHORTENED

PA2427334 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 24 Oct 85 p 3

[Text] The National Congress, on a request from the Armed Forces, has agreed to reduce 2 years of the Armed Forces Commander's mandate, by amending Article 279 of the Constitution. The Armed Forces Commander's term is 5 years long and, following the amendments, it will be only 3 years long, granting that the Legislative Assembly approved the amendment.

Article No 1 says: Amend 279 of the Constitution of the Republic concerning the mandate of the Honduran Armed Forces commander in chief; consequently, the article should read as follows:

Article 279. The Armed Forces commander must be a top-level officer with the rank of colonel or its equivalent, in active service, Honduran by birth, and will be elected by the National Congress from a list that will be proposed by the Armed Forces Superior Council; he will remain in the post for 3 years and may only be removed from his post if two-thirds of the National Congress decree there is due cause or in the other cases foreseen in the Armed Forces' statutes. No one who is a relative of the president or his legal substitutes within the fourth grade of consanguinity or accordance to kinship may be elected chief of the Armed Forces.

Article 2: This decree will be effective when it is approved during the next Legislative Assembly's ordinary meeting, according to the terms stated in the Constitution of the Republic.

Article 279 of the Constitution of the Republic refers to the fact that the chief of the Armed Forces will hold the post for 5 years and, following last night's amendment, he will only hold the post for 3 years.

20,000 DEMONSTRATE AGAINST SUAZO CONTINUATION

PA2500551 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0027 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 24 Oct (ACAN-EFE) — Thousands of militants of the Liberal and National Parties of Honduras are picketing the National Congress tonight, where they are expecting the introduction of an alleged draft bill to convert it into a Constituent assembly.

If the Congress becomes a constituent assembly, power would lie with the current President Roberto Suazo Cordova and his mandate could be extended for 2 more years. Roberto Suazo Cordova's extension in power would mean a postponement of the electoral process scheduled for 24 November of this year.

Political unrest began last night when it was learned that an emergency session had been called for today at 1800 hours. Also strong calls to Congress President Efrain Bu Giron, who was opposed to the meeting, were also made.

More than 20,000 persons with flags of the Liberal and National Parties are gathered in the lower part of the Honduran Legislative Palace which is located in downtown Tegucigalpa, shouting "elections yes, continuism no."

NATIONAL CONGRESS MEETS IN EMERGENCY SESSION

PA2505Z11 [Editorial Report] Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish at 0050 GMT on 25 October begins live coverage of an emergency session of the National Congress. It begins with a recorded statement by National Congress President Efrain Bu Giron who says: "They are trying to perpetrate a juridical violation by turning the National Congress into a constituent assembly, but this has no juridical or historical basis...this violates the Constitution, it is immoral, and it will provoke discontent among the Honduran people." He says passing the proposal "would represent a blow against the Republic, it would be a stab in the back for our homeland." When asked if the discontent this would cause would be an invitation for a coup d'etat, he says: "I do not think so, but the truth is that the Armed Forces have the obligation to guarantee peace and security in the country." He says supporters of the proposal "might be guilty of a grave crime, that of treason against the homeland." He says that the proposal "is a coup against the Constitution."

The reporter says that two U.S. Embassy representatives have been invited by the National Congress president to be present at the session.

At 0100 GMT the session begins. The reporter says the area around the National Congress building has been closed off due to the crowd.

At 0112 GMT Rafael Leonardo Callejas, a leader of the opposition Honduran Nationalist Party, arrives. He says that his followers will surround the Congress and will not allow others to play with our future. Guards arrive and Callejas is surrounded by his followers to protect him.

At 0118 GMT the reporter says that the U.S. Embassy representative left after an official came for them, perhaps because they were afraid something might happen. The reporter says more reinforcements have arrived from the Armed Forces.

At 0142 GMT, Deputy Roberto Echenique begins presenting the motion that the National Congress become a constituent assembly. He is noisily interrupted by the crowd. He continues reading the proposal, but other deputies protest. Members come to blows. A deputy pulls out a gun and threatens another deputy.

Bu Giron calls for calm and says: "In truth, that motion has no legal basis and cannot be approved." Discussion continues on the motion. Bu Giron leaves the hall. At 0201 GMT Bu Giron returns "running." He says: "Deputies, Honduran people: Honduras has great hopes that the constitutional process will not be altered. General Walter Lopez, chief of the Armed Forces, has just called me to tell the deputies that are attempting to violate the Constitution to learn to live in democracy and to stop such practices, that he is going to bring up before the courts whoever is involved in violating the constitutional norms of the government. He has authorized me to tell this to the Honduran people. Such action dignifies the Armed Forces, and, as of this moment, the people of Honduras must fully back the Honduran Armed Forces."

A deputy confirms the conversation with Gen Lopez. The deputies praise the Armed Forces and deplore the introduction of the proposal. They then discuss the withdrawal of the motion. Deputy Efrain Diaz Arrivillaga says "that we must neither involve the Armed Forces nor the U.S. Embassy in matters that are strictly the concern of the political parties and this National Congress." Deputy Echenique, who introduced the motion, leaves the session.

Discussion of the motion continues. Deputy Jose Arturo del Hoyo, one of the Liberal Party's presidential candidates, says: "It seems a great irresponsibility that those who must safeguard the nation's tranquility should incite deputies to lend themselves to this type of attempt in the National Congress."

The discussion of the motion continues with deputies calling for the motion to be withdrawn. They debate on whether or not to vote on the motion. Deputy Nicolas Ruiz submits a motion to reject the proposal. An unidentified deputy recommends the suspension of the session until 25 October. Bu Citron says that the deputies have defended the interests of the Honduran people and that the session has seen who among them are the "true traitors" of the country.

It is announced that the next session will be held on 25 October at 1600. Deputies are asked not to leave Tegucigalpa. At 0126 CST the session is declared closed.

The broadcast continues with interviews with deputies, all of whom express opposition to the proposal to turn the National Congress into a constituent assembly. At 0142 CST, normal programming is resumed.

"ENERGETIC" PROTEST NOTE TO NICARAGUA RELEASED

PA250218 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0127 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 24 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Foreign Ministry released the text of an "energetic" protest note to the Nicaraguan Government for armed aggressions from 18 to 20 October.

According to the protest, on Friday, 18 October, at 0900 in the morning and at 1500 the same day there were two aggressions. On the morning of that day a Honduran patrol received hostile fire from Nicaragua in the region of San Benito, in the southern Department of Choluteca.

In the afternoon, an undetermined number of Sandinist soldiers made an incursion in the region of El Tablazo, also in Choluteca, and actions similar to those at 0400 in the morning on the 19th [as received] were repeated.

On 20 October at 0400 in the morning, a Honduran patrol in the region of Guasuma, also in Choluteca, received fire from Nicaragua.

The protest note signed by Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica stated that "the provocations and aggressions perpetrated by the Sandinist People's Army against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Honduras are no longer sporadic, but are committed daily."

The diplomatic note added that "perhaps the Nicaraguan Government wants to test the patience of the peoples and Government of Honduras or perhaps it wants to justify with these provocative maneuvers the recent restriction of the fundamental liberties of its own people, which elicited the unanimous condemnation of the international community."

"My government," the protest note added, "urges the Nicaraguan Government to cease these aggressions and truly support the negotiations promoted by the Contadora Group to secure peace in the region."

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA REACTS TO REAGAN UNITED NATIONS SPEECH

Reagan 'Against Peace'

FA2410831 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1724 GMT 24 Oct 85

[News conference held by President Daniel Ortega at the United Nations in New York "after President Ronald Reagan's speech to the United Nations" on 24 October. questioners not identified; broadcast in progress -- recorded]

[Text] [Question]... [words indistinct] your opinion on President Reagan's speech?

[Ortega] We are disappointed in the President's speech. This shows that the President continues to be misinformed and ill-advised. This has been a blow on the 40th anniversary of the United Nations because, on the one hand, he says that he respects Article 2 of the UN Charter that rules out the threat or use of force, and on the other hand he ends up saying that he will continue to use force and threaten to use force against nations like Nicaragua. He did not respond to the call that we made about issuing a statement respecting and accepting the International Court of Justice ruling and ending the aggression against Nicaragua. [With this] the U.S. Government has dealt a blow to the United Nations on its 40th anniversary.

The president says he agrees with the defense of life and the struggle for life. He gave the example of a newborn child who was rescued from the rubble in Mexico. If the president really wants peace and life, then let him stop attacking Nicaragua because the money that he gives to the mercenaries serves to kill children in Nicaragua daily. Newborn children, month old babies, and small children are being killed in Nicaragua daily. If the U.S. President really loves life and believes in God and if he really wants life and peace, then he should act consistently and suspend the aggression that is tearing the life out of the Nicaraguan people. Therefore, we think that the president delivered a speech that was a slap to the UN Charter. It was a slap to this 40th anniversary. It was a slap to peace.

In addition, it was a speech filled with lies. One can see that those who give him information are liars because it is a lie that there are 8,000 Soviets and Cubans in Nicaragua. That is absolutely false. In Nicaragua there is a total of approximately 1,500 Soviet and Cuban civilian personnel that provide humanitarian service, mainly doctors. In Nicaragua there are only approximately 700 Cuban military advisers. In the Contadora meetings we have stated that we are willing to accept the departure of all foreign military advisers from the Central American region. What the president said in his speech in this regard is absolutely false. We hope that those who are misinforming President Reagan will seriously think things over and assume a consistent position in favor of peace. President Reagan should realize that the way his government is currently acting goes against peace, life, and God.

[Question] [words indistinct] for Contadora?

[Ortega] This is a blow to Contadora because while Contadora makes efforts for peace, the president tells Contadora that he will continue to make efforts for war. He tries to [words indistinct] legal order to defend an alleged right to use force or the threat of force against Nicaragua. Thank you.

"Slap in Face" to UN

PA2310217 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Reagan has reiterated that he will continue the war against Nicaragua and other free peoples. With a warmongering mind, placing the problems of several independent countries within the framework of the East-West confrontation, U.S. President Ronald Reagan announced the continuation of military aid for the criminal counterrevolutionary forces attacking the peoples of Nicaragua, Angola, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, and others.

With his speech before the UN General Assembly, the U.S. President dashed hopes for peace raised by the international challenge posed by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra, who invited him to join efforts in favor of peace and detente both in Central America and at the international level.

Without any shame, President Reagan announced to the world that he will step up his war against the Nicaraguan people, by increasing military aid to what he described as the democratic resistance forces -- his concept of the Somozan bandits and mercenaries -- until negotiations can be achieved that will permit a reconciliation between the people and their hangmen in Nicaragua.

In a clear attitude of intervention in the internal affairs of nonaligned states, President Reagan expects the United States and the CSSR to sit down together at the bargaining table to discuss the future of the countries. In exchange for this, the empire offered generous economic aid, so that these countries may return to the sphere of U.S. influence, which he branded the family of free nations.

At no time during his speech did President Ronald Reagan refer to the grave problem of the poor nations and their skyrocketing foreign debt. However, he did mention an alleged socialist military presence in several independent countries, but ignored the actions of state terrorism that imperialism perpetrates every day in the majority of the nations in the world. Reagan also insisted on going forward with his "star wars" program, ignoring the international warnings that have been made regarding the real danger of total extermination that lingers over mankind.

Obviously, in no part of his speech did President Reagan mention the permanent violations of international law on the part of the United States, such as the withdrawal from The Hague International Court of Justice, precisely now that it is being judged for its policy of state terrorism against Nicaragua.

President Reagan's speech was a slap in the face to the UN Charter, to the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, and to peace; President Reagan will continue using force against the Central American countries, specifically against Nicaragua, since the money he sends to the mercenaries is used to kill Nicaraguan people, particularly defenseless children.

President Reagan's speech is full of lies, President Ortega said, denying that there are 8,000 Soviets and Cubans in Nicaragua, as stated by Reagan. In this sense, Ortega said that there are approximately 1,300 Soviet and Cuban citizens in Nicaragua who are giving humanitarian aid to Nicaragua, especially doctors, adding that there are approximately 200 Cuban military advisers in our country. In this respect, Daniel recalled that the Nicaraguan Government, through the Contadora Group, has proposed that all the foreign advisers who are currently in the various area countries leave Central America. He added that what Reagan said in this respect is completely false.

We hope that those who advise and inform the President will rethink their positions, because they are opposing peace for our peoples, President Ortega stressed. Daniel said: Reagan's speech at the United Nations is a blow to Contadora because he reiterated that the United States is going to continue its war against Nicaragua, that it will continue meddling in the internal affairs of the Central American countries, and because he threatened to use force against Nicaragua.

ORTEGA DEFENDS STATE OF EMERGENCY, BLAMES U.S.

AU2504Z8 Vienna Television Service in German 2015 GMT 24 Oct 85

["Exclusive interview" with President Daniel Ortega by Austrian television reporter Lorenz Gallmetzer; date and place not given -- videotaped in Spanish with superimposed German translation]

[Text] [Ortega] The state of emergency is intended to put to an end to the emergency situation that has developed as a result of the U.S. aggression. The very moment the U.S. Administration halts this aggression and normalizes relations with Nicaragua, we will immediately lift the state of emergency.

[Gallmetzer] The government has abolished virtually all political and personal freedoms. This is directed primarily against the trade unions, the Church, the opposition media -- one gets the impression that the Sandinists are afraid of their own people and that they are unable to govern their country any longer without these measures.

[Ortega] Well, the state of emergency is intended to help us against the armed counterrevolutionary activities that are supported by the United States, but the existence of the political parties and political pluralism is not endangered. And the press is not eliminated, either -- here is merely censorship for certain information, but one certainly cannot speak of abolishing the free press. We want to maintain pluralism in our political process. The state of emergency does not impair the political development of Nicaragua. Naturally, if a political party wants to stage a demonstration it now needs permission. And we do not have any problems with the Church, either. There are merely some controversies with some members of the Church who engage in political polemic against us. That, however, does not mean that there is any confrontation with the Church....

[Gallmetzer, interrupting] Excuse me for interrupting you, Mr President, but Cardinal Obando y Bravo is not just any representative of the Church. It looks as if the new emergency measures were directed particularly against the Church.

[Ortega] But Cardinal Obando y Bravo is not Nicaragua's entire Church. In our country, we have 10 bishops who all have the same authority -- each in his own episcopate. Cardinal Obando y Bravo -- that is 1 out of 10 bishops -- can help shape Nicaragua's politics, but not as a member of a political party. But he is mixing political with religious activities.

[Gallmetzer] Don't you see any possibility of a peaceful solution, a political solution, a political solution, in your country?

[Ortega] We are not giving up hope that the U.S. Government will understand that its Central American policy is wrong, that it must alter this policy and accept a peaceful solution in Central America.

[Gallmetzer] You have just talked with Chancellor Fred Sinowatz. How would you describe the relations between Austria and Nicaragua at present?

[Ortega] We discussed with Chancellor Sinowatz the whole situation in Central America, and we talked about the peace process that the Contadora group can promote. The Chancellor has also expressed his uneasiness over the state of emergency in Nicaragua. We have explained to him that we have not imposed the state of emergency in order to jeopardize democracy in Nicaragua but to defend the democratic process in Nicaragua against U.S. military aggression.

NOTE SENT TO HONDURAS ON 'MERCENARY FORCE'

PA2150337 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0029 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco today sent a new protest note to his Honduran counterpart, Edgardo Paz Barnica, to demand a specific answer to the protest note sent on 2 October 1985, which denounced the gathering of a mercenary force of approximately 2,500 men in Honduran territory. The letter recalls that the Nicaraguan Government addressed the Contadora Group member countries requesting the creation of a commission comprised of members of this organization to investigate the presence of troops in border areas, adding that it has not even been possible to establish a meeting between Honduran and Nicaraguan military authorities to date. In addition, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry's new note states its concern that even though some time has elapsed, there has been no answer to Nicaragua's request and the the mercenary forces are still dangerously stationed in Honduran territory.

RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVEL TO HONDURAS ANNOUNCED

PA2211841 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Oct 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] Effective this week, new restrictions have been imposed on the Nicaraguans who want to travel to Honduras, it was reported by Herminio Pineda, counsellor and consul of that diplomatic mission in our country. The Nicaraguans who want to enter the neighboring country's territory must first get a visa, which will be obtained after presenting $300, a visa to a third country, a Honduran residence card, a round-trip ticket, a passport-size photograph, and a current Nicaraguan passport and immigration visa.

The diplomat explained that only the Nicaraguans who present a round-trip ticket when travelling by air and a Honduran residence card when travelling by land, will be allowed to enter Honduran territory and extend their stay in that country.

Land traffic to the neighboring country has not been re-established yet; only those crossing the country en route to a third country -- either in an excursion or in a private vehicle -- will be allowed to enter; these will be duly guarded by the Honduran National Immigration Directorate's employees.

Likewise, he explained that the right to introduce Nicaraguan handicrafts into Honduras has been suspended, including products such as hammocks, wicker furniture and decorations, leather goods, and other kinds of crafts, shoes, handbags, among others because it was ascertained that these were being brought in and sold for profit.

"I do not want to create false hopes and appear optimistic by saying that these measures will be subject to changes in a short time, because -- given that the Christmas season is near and the occasion is propitious for reaping a profit -- the Honduran authorities consider it is convenient to maintain these measures," the diplomatic official stated.

Asked about the reasons why this measure was adopted, the diplomat said they were mainly aimed at stemming the flow of Nicaraguan immigrants who want to live in this country, because it was found out that they enter as tourists and then apply for residency, and this should be done abroad.

These restrictions are aimed at preventing the immigration phenomenon that was experienced with the Salvadorans, approximately 300,000 [as published] of them arrived per day and, at a given time, this represented a one-fifth of the Honduran population," the diplomat concluded.

CONTRA SUPPORT NETWORK IN REGION 6 BROKEN UP

PA1911734 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Oct 85

[Text] Yesterday, the Interior Ministry delegate for Region 6 announced the breakup of a logistic support network of counterrevolutionary forces that were operating in the departments of Matagalpa and Jinotega in the country's Region 6.

Commander Juan Jose Ubeda said that 129 persons involved in that network are under arrest and will be put at the disposal of the corresponding authorities. He said that the network had been giving support to counterrevolutionary forces involved in various activities and pressuring peasant communities into cooperating with the counterrevolutionaries. Commander Ubeda said many of the arrested persons were captured in various military operations. He exhibited part of the military arsenal that the mercenary units had been providing to so-called carriers. The arsenal includes G3, FAL, and AK rifles; Claymore mines used for ambushes against civilian vehicles; and explosives to blow up electric towers, he said. The delegate of the Interior Ministry also referred to other activities carried out by the contras in the city of Matagalpa to coordinate activities in the mountains and in the city, where in recent months the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] tried to create an illegal organization they called Sombra.

Peace must be a routine in Nicaragua and this is why the children of Sandino are struggling constantly. The Interior Ministry has broken up a band that wanted to form an internal front in Region 6. In connection with this, 129 counterrevolutionaries have been captured and they will be put at the disposal of the courts to face trial. They were found with arms, mines, and propaganda from the counterrevolutionary organizations FDN and ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] in their possession. They also had Catholic Church banners and propaganda dealing with visits by Cardenal Obando y Bravo.

This group of criminals had the task of pointing out civilian and military vehicles so that the counterrevolutionary forces could ambush them. They functioned as an internal front in the Jinotega region. They also tried to form a clandestine organization called Sombra in the city of Matagalpa in order to carry out terrorist and sabotage operations, and to organize diversionary activities, taking advantage of the religious feelings of our people in order to promote evasion of the Patriotic Military Service.

Commander Juan Jose Ubeda made this announcement at a news conference yesterday in Matagalpa. He was accompanied by FSLN regional secretary Carlos Lamarca, a government delegate.

[Begin Ubeda recording] In an effort to coordinate counterrevolutionary activities in the mountains with those in the city -- something that they never have been able to do -- the FDN tried to organize a clandestine group in the city of Matagalpa during the past few month which they called Sombra. This organization planned to carry out terrorist actions and sabotage operations inside Matagalpa and diversionary activities, taking advantage of the religious feelings of our people in order to prompt the evasion of Patriotic Military Service by young people of military service age. To do this, they created a network that comprised the Matagalpa [words indistinct] route leading up to the mountains where they took young people who had been induced into evading the Patriotic Military Service to integrate them into counterrevolutionary military units.

It is important to note that most of these counterrevolutionary elements are anti-social people, former Somozist guards, and from speculative sectors -- street vendors and merchants. Eighteen of the persons involved with this clandestine group are here, they are in the back to my right. This group includes Jose [deselect], driver for the former colonel who murdered Sandino; [name indistinct], who brings bad memories to the people of Matagalpa; Juan Lopez, a former Somozist guard; Reyna Alvarez, whose husband -- also a former guard -- is in the Modelo Prison for having committed crimes; Maria Elena Quintero, whose husband -- another former guard -- is also in the Modelo Prison; and Agustin Perez, whom we are investigating because we have found documents and pictures in his home that link him to the Somozist guard. Others are: Genaro Potosi and Luis Bastida, both former Somozist guards. The last are linked to the Somozist dictatorship. These individuals had the task of recruiting members of charismatic groups -- Jehova Witnesses and others who they thought might dislike the revolution -- in order to cause a confrontation between the revolution and the church. [end recording]

CONTRAS SUFFER 85 CASUALTIES FROM 3-17 OCTOBER

PA1920013 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Oct 85

[Text] The victorious EPS [Sandinist People's Army] offensive against President Reagan's mercenaries has continued. The EPS and the territorial militias have inflicted 85 casualties on the mercenaries who operate in Jalapa, Chontales, Zinotega, and Rio San Juan Departments from 3 to 17 October. A Defense Ministry communique indicates that in the actions carried out during 39 battles, the EPS seized a large number of military supplies and heavy weapons from the contras including LAW [light antitank weapon] rocket launchers, M-14 [as heard] rifles, M-60 machineguns, and FAL rifles.

In their criminal actions, Reagan's mercenaries kidnapped 18 civilians, and killed 4 and wounded 6 during kidnappings, attacks, and ambushes. As part of their policy of destruction and death, the mercenaries attacked the (Masayan) settlement in Rio San Juan Department on Wednesday kidnapping and killing civilians and looting. This is one more demonstration of the policy of terror being carried out by the counterrevolutionary forces supported and financed by the Reagan administration.

CONTRA ATTACK FROM COSTA RICAN POST REPORTED

PA2210234 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 20 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] A group of approximately 50 counterrevolutionaries who operate from Costa Rican territory attacked the Sarapiqui Costa Rican Rural Guard post, 35 km southeast of San Juan del Norte, yesterday at 1230, the Defense Ministry reported.

According to a report issued by the Sandinist soldiers guarding the Nicaraguan post across from Sarapiqui, the attack lasted 30 minutes. It is noteworthy that because of the way the two border posts are located -- EPS [Sandinist People's Army] and GAR [Rural Assistance Guard] -- across from each other, the two garrisons have developed good relations.

The report adds that following the attack, which took place on the other bank of the river, shots were heard from within Costa Rica. The head of the Costa Rican border post asked for help from the Nicaraguan border post when they were being attacked.

Yesterday, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry denounced a new mercenary attack carried out by approximately 300 Miskitos who, at 0830, opened rifle and mortar fire on the Nicaraguan port of La Penca, on the banks of the San Juan River.

President Monge's government, through a protest note, was warned of the presence and deployment of a group of approximately 300 or 400 armed mercenaries in the area of Machado hill, 39 km southeast of El Castillo. Another Somozist force was spotted on Friday in the area of El Venado, 49 km southeast of El Castillo, also in Costa Rican territory, the official report adds.

"In view of the dangerous situation and the risks involved, Nicaragua asks the authorities (of Costa Rica) to control and guard the border area to prevent and halt new acts of aggression against Nicaragua."

In its two letters, the Nicaraguan Government stresses that the continuity of these terrorist actions "are a factor that hinders the peacemaking efforts being made by the Contadora Group in an attempt to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Central American region."

ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH USSR SIGNED

PA2211233 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1952 GMT 20 Oct 85

[Text] Managua, 20 Oct (DPA) -- Official sources have reported that Nicaragua and the USSR signed a 2-year economic cooperation agreement in Managua today.

Planning Minister Dionisio Marenco and the vice president of the Soviet Government's committee, [name not given] who together form the mixed commission between the two nations, signed the protocol in presence of top Nicaraguan government leaders.

It was reported that the agreement reflects the spirit of cooperation and the friendship ties between the Nicaraguan and Soviet Governments.

There will be trade exchange between the two countries for an unspecified amount. In addition, the USSR will supply technical assistance to Nicaragua in fishing activities.

The relations between Nicaragua and the USSR began in 1979 following the ousting of the Somozist dictatorship by the popular forces led by the FSLN, and these relations have increased at the commercial level with the U.S. commercial blockade.

MEDIA VIEW REAGAN UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPEECH

Attempt 'To Blackmail' USSR

FL2412911 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] In what has been interpreted by observers as an attempt to blackmail the USSR, U.S. President Ronald Reagan today suggested at the UN General Assembly that bilateral relations will not improve nor will there be disarmament agreements unless the conflicts in Nicaragua, Cambodia, Afghanistan, Angola, and Ethiopia are first resolved in the manner desired by the United States. In his speech before the UN General Assembly on the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, Reagan challenged the Governments of Nicaragua, Kampuchea, Afghanistan, and Angola to enter negotiations with the counter-revolutionary forces financed from abroad, mostly by the United States.

Many of the newsmen who were following the U.S. President's speech at the United Nations stated that if Reagan really advocates peacefully resolving the regional conflict, he should have placed El Salvador, where the Jose Napoleon Duarte regime and the White House refuse to dialogue with the insurgents, on the top of the list. The newsmen also pointed out that Reagan did not mention the critical internal situation in South Africa. Also, Reagan reiterated that he will not make any special concessions on his project to militarize the cosmos when he meets Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Geneva in November.

'Contradiction' Noted

FL2416302 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Without offering any concrete responses to the peace initiatives from the USSR and socialist countries, the U.S. President gave his speech at the United Nations today. During his speech to the UN General Assembly, Ronald Reagan said his country will discuss an equitable and verifiable reduction of nuclear arms, but in frank contradiction he affirmed that he is a supporter of arms development.

Peace Initiative Decried

FL2500049 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan addressed the United Nations General Assembly today and outlined a purported initiative that, according to him, will resolve the regional conflicts in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. In his speech, Reagan referred to those nations with whose governments Washington has sharp political differences, such as Afghanistan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Angola, and Nicaragua.

According to Reagan, peace would be achieved in those countries through negotiations between the belligerent parties acting as equals, that is, between governments and counterrevolutionaries. The procedure suggested by the U.S. chief executive includes later conversations between the United States and the USSR to support and promote the peace process. Once the opposing parties have been reconciled, Reagan said, the United States would receive those countries in the arms of the world's market economy system, all economic blackmail against them would cease, and their sovereignty would be blessed in passing.

The U.S. President said that the differences between his country and the USSR are great, but, he added, in his coming meeting with the top Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev the present reasons for distrust can be analyzed and frank conversations held.

He promised that the United States will discuss a fair verifiable reduction of nuclear arms in Geneva. Nevertheless, contradictorily, he came out for the development of defensive and not offensive weapons.

Denying what constitutes the basis of the present U.S. foreign policy, Reagan said: We do not accept that any country has the historic right to use force to export its ideology.

HAVANA CITES ORTEGA REACTION TO REAGAN SPEECH

PA2502147 Havana International Service in Spanish 0015 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Report by Guillermo Santiesteban from the United Nations]

[Text] Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said here today that the U.S. President's speech disappointed him and he described it as a slap against the UN Charter and the organization on its 40th anniversary. He added that the speech is also a blow to the Contadora Group, because while the group strives for peace, Reagan announces that he will continue with the war.

President Ortega spoke with newsmen in the lobby of the UN General Assembly Hall shortly after President Ronald Reagan's speech, who warned that as long as no agreements in certain areas of conflict are reached according to the norms he proposed, he will continue giving aid to the organizations fighting the governments of those countries, including Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan president also pointed out that Reagan has been given false information, that there are not 8,000 Soviet and Cuban advisers as Reagan mentioned in his speech. The civilian staff, mostly medical doctors, of both nationalities are less than 1,500, Ortega added. He added that the Cuban military advisers number about 700 and that Nicaragua has already proclaimed its willingness to allow all foreign military advisers to leave the Central American area.

President Reagan, Commander Daniel Ortega added, says he is defending life. However, the funds he provides to the counterrevolutionaries are killing Nicaraguans, including many children of all ages.

SALVADORAN PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER'S RELEASE REPORTED

PA2142324 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] The first group of a total of 22 Salvadoran political prisoners in La Esperanza Penitentiary left this morning as part of an agreement for the release of the daughter of President Jose Napoleon Duarte and 23 city mayors being held by the Salvadoran guerrillas. According to the agreement, the International Red Cross will evacuate, in addition, approximately 100 wounded rebels who need medical attention abroad. Cecilia Villeda, a friend of Ines Guadalupe Duarte who was kidnapped along with her on 10 September by an urban guerrilla command, will also be released.

Radio Venceremos, official mouthpiece of the FMLN, charged that the Army violated the agreement when it attacked in Jucuaran, Usulutan Department, a group of wounded guerrillas who were going to be turned over the International Red Cross officials. The radio station pointed out that the Army's action was quickly repelled, and the wounded were able to reach their destination.

Last-minute reports state that Duarte's daughter was released by the guerrillas.

Released Prisoners Arrive

FL251108 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1055 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] A group of war-injured and political prisoners from El Salvador arrived this morning in Havana after being released in exchange for the daughter [Ines Guadalupe Duarte] of the chief of the regime in El Salvador Jose Napoleon Duarte, a friend of Guadalupe Duarte, and 23 Salvadoran mayors.

U.S.-HONDURAN PACT SHELTERS CONTRAS OR ARMIES

FA231307 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Oct 85

["Our America" commentary by Amalia Samartino]

[Text] The constant attacks on Nicaragua from Honduras are an unconcealable and well-known fact, but what could possibly be surprising for some people is that the presence of the counterrevolutionary bands in Honduras are part of an official agreement between the United States and the government headed by President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

A few days ago, leaders of the coffee growers of the eastern Department of El Paraiso declared that approximately 2,000 producers in this area have been affected by the presence of over 8,000 counterrevolutionaries of Nicaraguan origin. The producers emphasized that since Honduran authorities have refused to solve their problem, they went to the U.S. Embassy with their request. Ambassador John Ferch could not receive us, therefore we decided to talk to Michael Davila, the embassy economic adviser, the coffee growers added.

The report, published by the newspaper El TIEMPO of Tegucigalpa [as heard], adds that the U.S. Embassy economic adviser told the coffee growers that the presence of the counterrevolutionaries on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border is in accordance with a U.S.-Honduras agreement adopted in view of what he called the Nicaraguan military power, and that it is a part of the U.S. national security doctrine.

The cooperation between the U.S. and Honduran Governments has thus been officially announced, but, in any case, it had not gone unnoticed by national and international political sectors. It is enough to remember that in May President Ronald Reagan and President Suazo Cordova signed annexes to the military treaties of 1954. These documents applied, among other things, to the use of airports and military installations in Honduras by the United States, as well as to the use of Honduran airspace. During Suazo Cordova's visit to Washington, the Honduran Government obtained $69 million from the U.S. Agency for International Development in addition to the $588 million in military and economic assistance granted by the United States to Honduras from 1981 to 1985. On that occasion, President Reagan said that the U.S. commitment to support Honduras militarily was clearly reaffirmed during Suazo Cordova's visit; hence the increasingly open use of Honduran territory by U.S. soldiers and mercenary bands that attack Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, Diego Alvarado, one of the coffee growers who has been harmed by the presence of the contras in Honduras, said that in El Paraiso there are approximately 8,000 mercenaries who enjoy more guarantees than the population of the country and who are protected by the authorities. Alvarado stressed that the contras on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border are armed to the teeth and that they are a threat to the Honduran people because, he said: We have lost our guarantees to the rascals.

Finally, the Honduran producers asked to be compensated for the losses suffered since 1980 as a result of the presence of the counterrevolutionaries in the area. They also asked to be allowed to live and work in peace and tranquillity, requests that also apply to the Nicaraguan people and the achievement of which is made more difficult daily by the irresponsible attitude of the Honduran Government.

ANGOLAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES, GREETED BY CASTRO

FL2417194 [Editorial report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 2247 GMT on 24 October carries live coverage of the arrival at Havana's Jose Marti International Airport of Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

The opening shot shows the honor guard standing at attention. At 2248 GMT, the camera provides a long shot of the approaching aircraft, which lands and taxis toward the reception area. Staff announcer Manolo Ortega identifies the members of the Dos Santos entourage: Vice Minister of Defense Antonio dos Santos Franca, Minister of State Security Dino Matross, Minister of External Relations Alfonso van Dunem, Planning Minister Lopo do Nascimento, Minister of Foreign Trade Ismael Martins, and the vice minister of foreign relations.

The camera pans the waiting crowd, which waves pennants and placards while shouting "viva." At 2251 GMT, Fidel Castro is shown walking with the entourage toward the reception area. The camera shows Fidel Castro and his entourage, then the parking aircraft. At 2253 GMT, the ramp is moved up to the plane. Castro waits at the foot of the ramp; the announcer provides background information.

At 2256 GMT, Angolan President dos Santos comes down the ramp and is embraced by Fidel Castro, who then greets the delegation accompanying Dos Santos. Castro and Dos Santos converse as they walk to their places. At 2257 GMT the official ceremony begins with the playing of the Cuban and Angolan national anthems. Castro salutes while Dos Santos stands at attention. The camera shows the national flags, then the band and the honor guard before panning back to Castro and Dos Santos.

At 2300 GMT, Castro and Dos Santos walk toward the honor guard. Colonel Guerrero Ramos approaches the two presidents and addresses Dos Santos, who at 2302, accompanied by Fidel Castro, begins an inspection of the honor guard. Castro salutes during the entire inspection.

At 2303 GMT, Castro and Dos Santos greet members of the Cuban Government and party, including Isidoro Malmierca and other unidentified Cuban ministers. Night has fallen, reception is only fair, and some of the persons in the line are barely visible.

At 2304, Castro and Dos Santos greet the members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba. The crowd shouts welcoming slogans to Dos Santos. At 2306 GMT, Castro and Dos Santos walk toward the waiting crowd, which includes a group of Angolans who study and live in Cuba. Dos Santos greets individual Angolans, then individual Cubans in the waiting crowd. At 2308 GMT, Castro and Dos Santos return to the ceremonial area to watch the honor guard parade which begins at 2309 GMT. Castro salutes; Dos Santos stands at attention.

At 2311 GMT a limousine arrives for the two presidents, who board it immediately and are driven away. No speeches are given. The transmission ends at 2312 GMT and the camera returns to the studio.

ANGOLAN TRANSPORT MINISTER VISITS CAMAGUEY

FL2419301 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Manuel Bernardo de Sousa, Angolan transport minister and MPLA [Popular Liberation Movement of Angola-Labor Party] Central Committee member, is in Camaguey Province paying a work visit.

CASTRO ATTENDS BNL PRESIDENT'S FUNERAL

FL2419021 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro attended this morning the funeral of Raul Leon Torras, president of the National Bank of Cuba. Also attending the funeral were relatives, members of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, Politburo, and Council of State and Ministers. Raul Leon Torras was well-known in international circles as a representative of the financial policy of Cuba. His funeral took place in Colon in Havana.

DAY OF ACTION AGAINST FOREIGN DEBT 'SUCCESSFUL'

FL2413111 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Latin American workers combatively responded to the call made by the trade union conference held in Havana and said no to the payment of the foreign debt in a united shout that extended throughout the region on the day of continental action against the foreign debt. Information from various sources shows that the great continental day was successfully held in all regions that suffer the tragic consequences of an insupportable and unpayable foreign debt of more than $360 billion. The demonstrations held yesterday and the multiple arguments demonstrating that the foreign debt is unquestionably unpayable were unanimously heard while affirmations were made throughout the region on establishing a new international economic order.

On the day of continental action against the foreign debt, a report from Ecuador indicated that police detachments patrolled the university and attacked demonstrators with tear gas and water cannons while the demonstrators attempted to march to the Government Palace. Approximately 30 people were detained.

More than 1,000 Cuban workers actively and enthusiastically participated in the national 10-minute work stoppage called by the central organization of Cuban Trade Unions, CTC, on the day of continental action against the foreign debt while mass, peasant, and student organizations held other acts of solidarity.

FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN HUNGARY

FL2419081 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Budapest -- After visiting the Romanian capital, Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas today arrived in Hungary to pay a 3-day working visit. Cabrisas was met at the International Airport by his Hungarian counterpart Peter Veress and Cuban Trade Counselor Ramon de Armas, among other officials.

ANTICOMMUNIST PPC LEADER ASSASSINATED

FL251716 Santo Domingo Cadena Nova Fama in Spanish 0930 GMT 25 Oct 85

[Text] The country's principal leader in the anticommunist international cause was shot and his body found in the trunk of his car in the Guerra locality of the National district. Martin (Bower), was also first vice president of the Christian Popular Party, PPC, which is presided over by Rogelio Delgado (Duque). The information was given at mid-afternoon yesterday. Police sources say (Bower) was shot several times in the head. His body was found in the trunk of his car, license plate number 039424, on a highway in the Guerra community. A few meters from the car, an unidentified woman was found with bullet wounds. It is assumed that she was accompanying (Bower).

The act was committed by unidentified people yesterday morning. The anticommunist fighter was also a high official of the (Romanna) Center. Police organs have begun an extensive investigation to find the assassins of the country's principle leader of the international cause.

ARMY GENERAL ARRESTED FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

FL272000 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 8 Oct, p 1)

[Text] General Roman Ramiro Caamano, retired, was retired from active duty and investigated for his illegal participation as liaison for an international network of drug traffickers. The high retired official was investigated once and released but has been arrested again for investigation, it has been reported.

Lower officials of the armed forces who have been arrested said General Caamano Sanchez was the principle connection in the Dominican Republic.

Sources close to the investigation have explained that the accused said the retired general took charge of making changes in flight plans as part of his drug trafficking activities. It was also said that the authorities determined that the general had traveled to Miami on several occasions and met with top drug traffickers.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH NORWAY

FL2311455 Bridgetown CANA in English 1420 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Oct 23, CANA -- The governments of Antigua and Barbuda and Norway have established diplomatic relations at non-resident ambassadorial level, a foreign affairs statement here said. It said both governments have also expressed confidence that the agreement, which took effect from October 14, will enhance relations between the two countries and ensure closer and mutually beneficial ties between them.

BAHAMAS

FINDLING SPEAKS FOR COMMONWEALTH AT UN

FL2411754 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Prime Minister Findling among the figures addressing the United Nations General Assembly yesterday in New York. The prime minister expressing the views of the Commonwealth on world issues as a result of the Commonwealth heads of government meeting [CHOGM] that wrapped up in Nassau this week. Obi Wilson reports.

Sir Lynden, as chairman of the CHOGM meeting, expressed the views of his counterparts in a 12-minute address. He told the General Assembly that the Nassau declaration on world order pronounces the Commonwealth's unwavering support for the United Nations. The South African accord, he said, provided again a beginning that holds optimism.

"The steps proposed in the accord are seen by some as but modest. But I am optimistic on this floor and choose to see them not as the end of the beginning of the final act of removal of the apartheid human operation, but as the beginning of the beginning. Everyday that one life is lost in South Africa is one more life too many sacrificed on the devil's altar of the disciples of apartheid. Time has almost run out, but that time can be somewhat shortended by the exercise of the collective will of the great powers and the small ones who did not take part in the Commonwealth meeting in Nassau. As it was once [word indistinct] the accord can be seen to be a beginning, but it can also be seen to have [words indistinct] a response which is also terminal. For this reason, I invite all member states of the United Nations organization to take similar action."

On the question of security of small states, Sir Lynden made two suggestions.

"The one, recognize the needs and [words indistinct] economic approaches and arrangements that are sensitive to the special vulnerabilities of small states and, two, [words indistinct] consider the establishment of an effective global selective security system."

Prime Minister Findling told the General Assembly of the ongoing war against drug trafficking, which he said is costing small states, such as the Bahamas, millions of dollars. Turning to the world economic situation, Sir Lynden focused on shrinking economies of developing countries.

"It would appear, therefore, that the currently popular argument of the developing states, of the developed states [as heard], was first emerged from the recession in order for the developing states to progress, is patently false [as heard]. The reality is that the developing states, particularly small-island states, are regressing in the place of advancement by the industrialized nations and the consequences of this economic gap between the two groups is expanding rather than contracting. Indeed, the economic vulnerability of small states is increasing and precious little is being done by the industrialized countries or the international agencies to reverse this most unwelcome trend. Small states do not have ready access to international capital markets and so depend heavily on assistance from multi-lateral agencies to meet their development. Yet, the World Bank, long regarded as the economic saviour of developing countries, has seen fit to attempt to graduate small-island states from the International Development Association on the basis of the question of the criterion of per capita GNP.

"Similarly, other small-island states, such as the Bahamas, are in the process of being graduated from the World Bank loan facilities with the result that any development plans which were expected to be financed by World Bank loans will have to be placed on a shelf in the National Archives. The Bahamas believes the [words indistinct] position that the World Bank should reconsider its policy on graduation and adopt a more flexible position in determining the criteria for graduation."

Prime Minister Findlay told the United Nations secretary general that the Commonwealth heads reviewed that the United Nations is the most constructive and appropriate body to advance the ideals of international cooperation and good-will among nations.

BARBADOS

FIRST HALF 1985 TRADE DEFICIT HITS $251.6 MILLION

FL2312Z26 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 24 Oct p 2

[Text] Despite importing less goods from its non-Caricom trading partners, Barbados recorded a $251.65 million trading deficit during the first half of the year with extra-regional countries. According to trade figures issued by the Barbados Statistical Service (BSS), Barbados imported $525.37 million dollars worth of goods during the first half of last year as against 273.72 million dollars in exports for the same period this year.

Barbados' total exports during the January to June period were 273.72 million dollars as against $226.65 million for the corresponding period in 1984. This was $52.93 million less or 16.2 per cent. Imports were down from $574.06 million between January and June to $525.37 million or 8.4 per cent for the same period this year. During the period under review, this country imported $31.3 million less from Canada as it did last year -- $36 million, while exports to that country increased from $6.3 million to $6.5 million.

Barbados sold the United States $76.8 million worth of goods during the first half of this year compared with $128.7 million for the corresponding period last year, while imports dropped from $311.4 million in 1984 to $254.1 million for the same period in 1985.

Imports from Japan rose by just $1.3 million moving from $24.1 million in 1984 to $25.4 million dollars this year. Switzerland also recorded an increase in trade with Barbados, selling this country $2.6 million in goods as against $2.1 million last year, while that country took just $764,174 in our products.

Curacao, according to the BSS figures sold Barbados $22.9 million in goods during the first half of this year as against $2.5 million for the same period last year, but bought just $766,269 in goods from us.

DOMINICA

JOHN GUILTY OF CONSPIRING TO OVERTHROW CHARLES

FL2414441 Romain: Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] A judge in Roseau, Dominica, has sentenced former Prime Minister Patrick John and a former Defense Force official to 12 years in jail after a jury found him guilty of conspiring to overthrow the Dominica government in 1981. A jury of two men and seven women took less than 2 hours to return a guilty verdict against John, Malcom Revel, formerly second in command of the Dominica Defense Force, and David Julian, a salesman. Julian was sentenced to 5 years in prison. John's attorney says the defense will decide whether to appeal the decision within the next 7 weeks.

HAITI

IDB LOAN TO IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

FL2111410 Bridgetown CANA in English 1506 GMT 20 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Oct 20, CANA -- The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has approved an 11.9 million dollar (U.S.) loan to help expand and improve education in Haiti. The bank said the loan will be used by the government to carry out a programme designed to improve the physical infrastructure of the public school system in rural Haiti, and expand basic education coverage and enrollment in other schools.

Along with the loan, the bank approved 1.5 million dollars in grant technical cooperation to contract six individual consultants to train the 3,000 primary school teachers, review the curriculum currently in use in normal schools and help prepare new text books. The bank said the quality of instruction in Haiti's primary schools, particularly those in rural areas, was marked by serious deficiencies.

In addition, said the bank, only an estimated five per cent of the rural population speaks French, the official language of Haiti. One of the objectives of the educational reform programme, established in 1980, has been to introduce Creole as the basic language of instruction in the first four years of schooling.

JAMAICA

SEAGA REQUESTS IMF WAIVER, DELAY IN U.S. AID FUNDS

FL2141850 Bridgetown CANA in English 1821 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 24, CANA -- Jamaica will need a technical waiver from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for its latest quarterly economic performance test because U.S. funds, government had expected to enable it to meet the funds criteria, have not been received, Prime Minister Edward Seaga said. He told an airport press conference yesterday on his return from the Commonwealth heads of government meeting that the IMF had been advised about the non-receipt of the funds from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The prime minister's comments followed a statement Tuesday by the main opposition People's National Party (PNP) that the country had apparently failed the latest IMF tests for continued balance of payment support from the Washington-based agency.

Seaga said: Just before I left Jamaica, I was advised that the 30 million dollar (U.S.) grant that I had negotiated with the USAID back in April or May... of which we had received a part in July, and the rest was to have been received in September, would not be available in September because it was the end of the U.S. fiscal year... on that basis they advised us that they would be able to make the funds available at the beginning of their new fiscal year, which meant early October. He said it meant the funds could not come in on time and, since this was simply a technical matter and not a matter of the funds not being available, we made the IMF aware of this and, as in previous cases, were advised that it was quite in order for us to seek a waiver under a lapse-of-time provision. Seaga said the money, some 19 million dollars U.S. left to be drawn down, would be available this month.

The People's National Party based its statement on a report which appeared last Thursday in the FINANCIAL TIMES of London. Party Chairman P. J. Patterson said Seaga, who is also finance minister, had failed more IMF tests than any other minister of finance in the world. Jamaica cannot afford the shame of having a minister of finance who will not tell the people the truth, Patterson said. He added that Seaga had created a shroud of secrecy about the IMF terms, targets and the periods of review. Patterson said the PNP was warning government for the last time that, if it persisted in its policies, they would lead inevitably to social eruption.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

MINISTER URGES CARICOM TO PURSUE POLITICAL UNITY

FL2022024 Bridgetown CANA in English 2135 GMT 18 Oct 85

[Text] Toronto, Oct 18, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobagos' works Minister, Hugh Francis, has urged Caribbean community (Caricom) leaders to pursue a political union if a solution is to be found to the severe economic difficulties facing the 13-nation grouping. Caricom cannot provide the answers to the economic problems in the region, we need to go the whole way towards a federation, he told a meeting of Trinidad and Tobago nationals here. There is need to seriously return to the discussions about political union, difficult as it may appear now, he said. The small populations of the individual Caricom countries cannot provide an economic entity that can survive in the world in which protectionism is the norm, declared Francis, who was in transit through Toronto after attending a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) conference in the western province of Saskatchewan.

His comments came against a background of virtually stagnant trade, growing unemployment, and declining foreign exchange earnings in virtually all states of Caricom -- a 12-year-old grouping hinged on free trade among member states. The last political federation of West Indian countries collapsed in 1962 after four years, when Jamaica and, later the same year, Trinidad and Tobago gained their political independence from Britain.

Francis criticised leaders of the relatively small members of Caricom which, he said, were unwilling to surrender some of their sovereignty while their countries suffered massive economic problems. He cited as an example the duplication of representation by individual Caricom countries outside the region.

In an interview after the meeting, the Trinidad minister said time and the force of circumstances will bring Caribbean people to the realization that the only way we can survive as a people is if we can stand together. Francis said a lot of countries were finding it difficult to adhere to the philosophy they preach about free trade. Therefore, the Caribbean as a region will only be able to assert itself through closeness. He predicted that present economic circumstances will force a political alignment because the survival of the people in the area will depend on it.

On Trinidad and Tobago's role in the regional integration movement, Francis said his country had been trying to keep Caricom alive. We have been doing it, not by word, but by the hard-earned money of the taxpayers of Trinidad and Tobago, said Francis, in apparent reference to the substantial financial assistance Port of Spain has provided Caricom over the last decade or so.

SUGAR, OIL WORKERS PROTEST ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

FL2341512 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Thousands of workers gathered in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, yesterday to protest the government's economic policies. Trinidad's industrial sector was shut down as the workers joined in what was described as a day of sacrifice. They participated in a peaceful demonstration on the streets of the capital before assembling for a rally at West Port Square just opposite the parliament building. There they were addressed by the president general of the Old Trinidad Sugar Workers Trade Union and by the head of the powerful Oil Workers Trade Union. The demonstration attracted workers from 14 trade unions and was the first time that both the Council of Progressive Trade Unions and the Trade Union Congress had shown forces in a show of solidarity. The workers are reportedly protesting wide-scale unemployment, retrenchment, and lack of safety conditions at the work place.

HOYTE ON TALK CALLS FOR STRENGTHENED WORLD BODIES

FI241534 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Guyanese President Desmond Hoyte was among yesterday's speakers at the United Nations General Assembly. He warned of the dangers of the arms race and made a plea for arms control. He also condemned apartheid and denounced what he called attacks on the multilateral organizations of the UN. He said failure to strengthen the United Nations system will lead to further conflicts among nations.

Meets With Guyanese Officials

FI241513 Bridgetown CANA in English 1452 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 24, CANA -- Guyana President Desmond Hoyte has gone to New York for five days to meet with Guyanese and executive members of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) stationed in the U.S., government aides here said.

The Guyanese leader, who attended the just-ended Commonwealth summit in the Bahamas, will discuss, with the Guyanese at a government reception there, plans for forthcoming general elections in Guyana and will field questions from them on matters back home, the aides said.

President Hoyte had said in Georgetown that the matter of overseas voting by Guyanese living abroad may be changed under proposed electoral reforms prior to the general elections, constitutionally due before the end of March next year.

A government spokesman here said that under the electoral reform proposals, only Guyanese students studying abroad and staffers of the Guyana's overseas diplomatic missions will be allowed to do overseas voting.

The Guyana leader addressed the 40th commemorative session of the United nations in New York yesterday.

ECUADOR

DEPUTY MINISTER ON TIES WITH SPAIN, CONTADORA

PA231930 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1528 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Madrid, 23 Oct (EFE) -- Deputy Foreign Minister Julio Cortes said today that the Ecuadoran Government wants "a prompt solution" to the Central American and Nicaraguan problems. Although Spain and Ecuador have not officially discussed the recent break in relations between the governments of Quito and Managua, the deputy minister told EFE that "Ecuador maintains its support for Contadora" and defends "the right that the people who are suffering because of that situation have to decide their own future without strings, meddling, or limitations." He said that if Ecuador, "being truthful to itself," withdrew from the Contadora support group (Brazil, Uruguay, Peru, and Argentina) "this does not mean that we will no longer have anything to do with its objectives. Although we do not form part of the group, we support its objectives. This is our firm position."

The Ecuadoran official, who is participating in the meeting of the Ecuadoran-Spanish mixed commission as the head of his delegation, added that Spain and Ecuador are trying to find "a mechanism that will stimulate trade because we have a chronic deficit in our trade with Spain."

Last year's trade volume between the two countries was $60 million, with Spain having a favorable trade balance of $35 million. This week the Spanish-Ecuadoran talks are taking place at the Foreign Ministry building. They are being presided over by Spanish Secretary of State for International Cooperation Luis Yanez. The broad agenda includes technical, cultural, economic, and cooperation topics. Some subjects in the final discussion phase involve the hydroelectric, mining, social security, and meteorology sectors. This fifth meeting will close on Friday with a joint communique on the agreements reached.

VENEZUELA

GOVERNMENT SEEKS NEW CLAUSE IN DEBT AGREEMENT

PA231512 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1351 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Caracas, 23 Oct (REUTER) -- Faced with increasing internal pressure from unions and opposition parties, Venezuela forced a last minute delay in the signing of a multi-annual refinancing agreement for its $21.2 billion debt by asking for new concessions. Finance Ministry officials said that Venezuela wants a new stipulation in the agreement established with the commercial banks that will allow the renegotiation terms if economic conditions change, or if better conditions are secured by another indebted country.

This contingency clause was stressed this week by President Jaime Lusinchi during a speech at the United Nations. "It would serve as a model for other countries and it would force the international banks to negotiate according to the real capacity of each debtor," Lusinchi said.

Jorge Marcano, director of public finances, told REUTER that Venezuela would like to include any new mechanism granted to other debtors after signing its own agreement.

The clause was received with little enthusiasm by the banks, which feel that it could weaken already existing debt agreements. However, it is believed that this will be one of the main topics on the agenda when Venezuela's advisory bank committee meets in New York this week.